

## Step 1

### Key headlines:

- it's an initial 'snapshot' to place children within the Development Matters of the EYFS
- it's **not** to be used as a ticklist
- it's just a slim indication of the full Development Matters - it **should not** replace the whole EYFS

## 1 Early Assessment Review

Child's Story  
Parents' Story

### How do I use the Early Assessment Review?

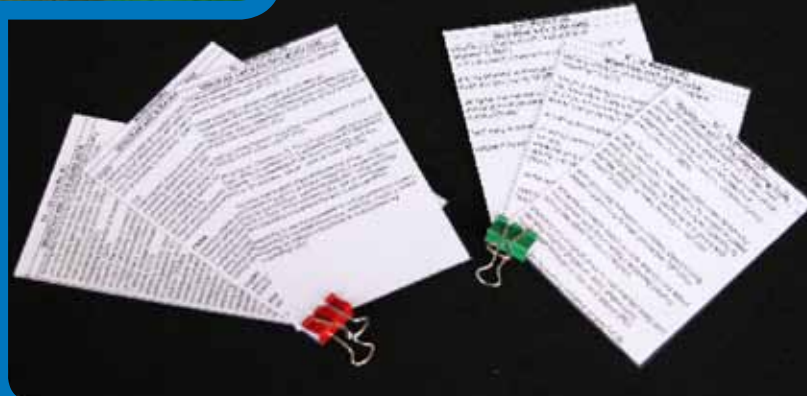
Placing the child on the learning map enables you to identify which age and stage to pitch your planning.

The EAR contains a manageable number of statements taken from Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Development Matters and Look, Listen and Note. These are arranged in the six EYFS age bands. You can use these mini-summaries to find out roughly where children are on the learning map of Development Matters. This will be a reflection of early information you have collected, especially through discussions with parents. Once you have the beginnings of the child's story through initial observations and information from parents, use them in sets of three: A, B, C or B, C, D or C, D, E and so on.

This should help you 'place' the child on the learning map represented by Development Matters. Then you will be able to plan more effectively across the Areas of Learning from the very start. As time passes, your range of observations will grow and your knowledge of where the child is in the context of the whole of EYFS will improve. Your later planning and assessment will continue to be informed by your observations and will broaden out to include the whole of EYFS. The EAR must be completed within six weeks of a child being in the setting.

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Child's Story  
Parents' Story



The Early Assessment Review (EAR) will help you to create a clear picture of where a child is developmentally. It will help you to locate children on the learning map represented by Development Matters

The next step is to think about where the child is in terms of Development Matters (see EYFS Practice Guidance Appendix 2 pages 22-114) by following their development in the Learning Journey.