# Minnesota Department of



## Section 1: Why collect outcomes data?

1. State government is the driving force behind measuring child outcomes.

True or False

Answer: False. It's actually the federal government that is the driving force.

- 2. Reasons to measure outcomes include:
  - a. to report data to the federal government
  - b. to learn whether programs are effective
  - c. for program improvement
  - d. all of the above

Answer: D. "all of the above" Although states must report data to the federal government, many state and local programs are interested in collecting the data for other purposes.

#### Section 2: The three child outcomes

- 3. Problem solving, attention, and understanding cause and effect fall under
  - a. Outcome 1
  - b. Outcome 2
  - c. Outcome 3

Answer: B. "Outcome 2" The basic skills related to thinking, learning and problem solving comes under outcome 2.

- 4. Awareness of safety falls under
  - a. Outcome 1
  - b. Outcome 2
  - c. Outcome 3

Answer: C. "Outcome 3" Skills and behaviors related to health and safety relate to a child's ability to get his/her needs met.

- 5. Pre-academics fall under
  - a. Outcome 1
  - b. Outcome 2

c. Outcome 3

Answer: B. "Outcome 2" The basic skills related to thinking, learning and problem solving comes under outcome 2.

- 6. Playing with other children falls under
  - a. Outcome 1
  - b. Outcome 2
  - c. Outcome 3

Answer: A. "Outcome 1" A child's skills and behaviors that enable him/her to interact with adults and other children are in outcome 1.

- 7. Which of the following would we consider 'discrete,' versus functional, skills? (circle all that apply)
  - a. uses prepositions
  - b. hops on one foot
  - c. hands a toy to a child to engage in play
  - d. says "I'm hungry" when he wants food

Answer: A & B are discrete skills as there is no contextual information about how the child uses them meaningfully in everyday life.

- 8. Which of the following would we consider 'functional,' versus discrete, skills? (Circle all that apply)
  - a. looks for his cup when it is not in its usual place
  - b. repeats a sequence of 4 numbers
  - c. asks a question in conversation
  - d. crosses midline

Answer: A & C are functional skills as it is obvious that the child is using the skill to accomplish something meaningful in his/her everyday life.

### Section 3: Assessing the three child outcomes

9. Assessment tools are designed to measure the three child outcomes.

True or False

Answer: False. There are currently no assessment tools designed specifically to measure the three child outcomes.

- 10. Assessing functional outcomes can involve (circle all that apply)
- a. asking the family about the child's behavior at home

- b. asking the family about the child's behavior in the grocery store
- c. observing the child on the playground
  - d. talking to the child care provider about the child's eating habits at lunch

Answer: All of the above apply. Information from multiple data sources about a child's functioning across settings and situations is essential part of the child outcomes measurement process.

### **Section 4: The Child Outcomes Summary Form (COSF)**

11. The Child Outcomes Summary Form (COSF) is an assessment tool designed by the ECO center to measure child outcomes.

True or False

Answer: False. The COSF is NOT an assessment tool but rather a process that teams use to summarize information about a child's functioning. The COSF is the common metric that allows the state to aggregate data across the state.

- 12. A six on the 7-point rating scale means that the child's functioning is
  - a. below age appropriate
  - b. rarely age appropriate
  - c. overall age appropriate

Answer: C "overall age appropriate". Both 6 and 7 on the scale are overall age appropriate, but the rating of 6 means that there are some significant concerns that warrant monitoring of the child's skills and behaviors in that area.

- 13. A one on the 7-point rating scale means that the child's functioning is
  - a. below age appropriate
  - b. rarely age appropriate
  - c. overall age appropriate

Answer: A "below age appropriate". A rating of 1 on the scale means the child has no age appropriate skills or behaviors in that outcome area, and is not yet showing immediate foundational skills in that outcome area.

- 14. A three on the 7-point rating scale means that the child's functioning is
  - a. below age appropriate
  - b. rarely age appropriate
  - c. overall age appropriate

Answer: A "below age appropriate". A rating of 3 on the scale means the child has no age appropriate skills or behaviors in that outcome area, but is showing a lot of immediate foundational skills in that outcome area.

- 15. The team assigns a rating on the COSF 7-point rating scale:
  - a. at entry only
  - b. at exit only
  - c. at both entry and exit

Answer: C "at both entry and exit". The rating is about the status of the child's current skills and behaviors in the outcome area. It is a comparison of the child's skills to what is expected at his/her age.

- 16. The team answers the yes/no progress question:
  - a. at entry only
  - b. at exit only
  - c. at both entry and exit

Answer: B "at exit only". At exit, the team must answer the question of whether the child has developed any new skills or behaviors in the outcome area. Unlike the 7-point rating scale which compares the child to age expectations, the yes/no question is a comparison of the child at exit to himself/herself at entry.