COUNSEL ON RESPONSIVE CARE AND EARLY LEARNING

1: GREET THE CAREGIVER

- · Invite all family members including young children to join
- Sit yourself at the caregiver's eye level

2: OBSERVE CAREGIVER-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

- Does caregiver look and smile at the child?
- Does caregiver gently hold or stroke the child?
- Does caregiver respond to the child's sounds or gestures?

3: CHECK CHILD'S MILESTONES

- Ask the caregiver if the child is doing activities appropriate for his/her age
- If you are not sure, ask the caregiver to do some activities with the child

4: ASK ABOUT PLAYING & TALKING WITH THE CHILD

- Ask: Do you usually play with your child? Can you show me?
- Ask: Do you usually talk with your child? Can you show me?

5: PRAISE THE CAREGIVER

- Mention all the positive things you saw or heard caregiver do
- Explain why this is important

6: COUNSEL THE CAREGIVER

- If caregiver does not respond well to the child, ask him/her to observe and copy the child.
- Once the "conversation" is going, demonstrate a new activity with the child
- Let the caregiver try the activity with the child.
- Praise the caregiver and explain why this is important.
- Make plan for home (who will play with the child, when...)

7: REFER THE CHILD IF NEEDED. REGISTER

- · Refer the child with delayed milestones to the Health Facility
- Register the referral and the counseling provided.









CHECK DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

- If the child is "between" age groups, check the milestones for the earlier age group.
- If the child is born early, deduct the "missing" weeks from the child's actual age, before checking the milestones.



Refer the child with delayed milestones.







RECOMMENDED EARLY LEARNING ACTIVITIES (Part I)



When playing:

It is easy to discover if a child has developmental problems

A child's appetite and sleeping patterns improve

The child becomes active and intelligent







RECOMMENDED EARLY LEARNING ACTIVITIES (Part II)



make good choices

When playing:

The child and caregiver become friends

success at school and work later in life



FOUNDATION



PLAYBOX SESSION

1: SET UP THE PLAYBOX & GREET THE CAREGIVERS

2: EXPLAIN THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

- Explain why caregivers should play and talk with their children right from birth.
- 2. **Demonstrate** an activity for younger child and for older child. Discuss what the child may be learning in each activity (4 areas).
- 3. Explain how to use daily moments to play and talk with the child

3: INVITE 1-2 MODEL CAREGIVERS TO SHARE THEIR PRACTICES

- 1. Identify 1-2 caregivers who you observed to be very responsive to their children
- 2. Ask them to share with others how they play and talk with their children, and why

4: EXPLAIN PLAYBOX RULES

- 1. Children can play with the toys while in the waiting area.
- 2. Caregivers can help their child **select a toy** and are **encouraged to play with the child**.
- 3. Children should **return a toy** before taking another toy or before entering the consultation.
- 4. Children should wash their hands before playing.

5: INVITE CAREGIVERS TO WASH THEIR CHILDREN'S HANDS

- 1. Explain that many children are using the toys and so we should keep them clean.
- 2. Invite caregivers to wash their children's hands.

6: COUNSEL SELECTED CAREGIVERS (CARD 1)

- 1. Observe caregivers and children. Select for counseling 2-3 caregivers that:
 - Do not respond to the child's signals or do not play with the child
 - Treat the child with anger or agression
 - Have a child that seems to be very sick, malnourished or have a delay
 - Are very young (adolescents), are grandparents, or are fathers
- 2. If you identify a child with **delayed milestones**, refer to the nurse.

7: TIDY UP AND CLOSE THE PLAYBOX SESSION

- 1. Ask the caregivers to **return the toys**. Check that the toys are **complete**.
- 2. Repair/Remake any broken toys using locally avilable materials.
- 3. **Register** the session and any referrals made in the playbox register.







COUNSEL ON NUTRITION

- 1. Take the children's MUAC measurements and check their height and weight in the Mother & Child Booklet.
- 2. If MUAC is yellow or red, or if the children's height and weight measurements are not updated, help the caregiver to take the children to the health facility for growth monitoring.
- 3. Ask the woman what she and her children eat, how much, and how many times per day. Ask what the caregiver does to help the child eat well.
- 4. Praise the caregiver's good practices. Counsel on how to improve nutrition in the household.
- 5. Help the caregiver prepare a meal for her children, or create a meal plan for the following day. Praise the caregiver.
- 6. Encourage the caregiver to take the children to the health facility for deworming and vitamin A, to ensure that the children grow well.







COUNSEL ON NUTRITION (Part II)







