Conduct a 20–30 minute naturalistic observation. You may observe your family or friends, or with permission from a child’s teacher, you may observe a child in an early childhood classroom. Follow the steps below to complete your observation, and then answer the reflection questions that follow:

1. Decide whom you will observe. Describe here.

2. Decide how long you are going to observe (should be 20–30 minutes). Describe here.

3. Find a place where you can comfortably see the child you have decided to observe. Describe here.

4. On a piece of paper, write down the date, time, and type of observation you are conducting (naturalistic).

5. As you observe, write down what you see as it is happening. You should note information about the behaviors of the particular child that you have decided to observe, as well as information about the environment and others’ behaviors.
Reflection Questions

6. How did it go? What worked well, and what did not work well?

7. What kinds of information did you write down?

8. What will you do differently if you have to do this type of observation again?