

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT			
SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITION AND COGNITIVE PROCESSES			
IMITATION			
GOAL 10: CHILDREN IMITATE BEHAVIORS THAT THEY HAVE OBSERVED.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
Birth through 8 Months	Initiates, sustains, and replicates brief interactions and expressions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Looks at objects and faces. ▪ Responds to adult facial expressions with same expression (sticking out tongue, pursing lips). ▪ Mimics sounds. ▪ Stares, smiles at, or shows concern or puzzlement to a caregiver. ▪ Wiggles, kicks, increases rate of breathing in response to observation. ▪ Babbles in tandem with caregiver’s sounds. ▪ Imitates other’s action or expression and looks to that person for next cue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spend time holding and gazing at the child, responding to baby’s cues for sustained action. ▪ Recognize child’s cues and need to self-regulate or disengage from activity (e.g. child closes eyes, looks away or gets fussy). ▪ Initiate and respond in reciprocal interactions. ▪ Describe what the child is doing to the child. ▪ Exaggerate facial expressions. ▪ Hold facial expressions for a sustained time as you engage the baby.