



# Learning to Teach

## Observing and Reflecting

This video series, “Learning to Teach,” provides a platform for professional development in early childhood education. It introduces viewers to compelling early childhood classroom footage accompanied by facilitated discussions about observations and teaching practices. You will get a hands-on look at how beginning teachers learn to closely observe children and engage in reflective conversations about children, materials, the classroom environment and themselves.

The video has three parts: classroom routines and transitions, dramatic play, and early childhood materials. It enacts two essential elements of Bank Street College of Education’s teacher education pedagogy: close observation of children and reflective practice.

A classroom of four year olds is a busy place. You will see children enter school, say goodbye to their caregivers, engage in interactions with their classmates, play with a range of materials, listen to a story, and get ready for lunch and outdoor play. In short, these vignettes illuminate authentic moments that are typical of classroom life with young children. Many of these situations represent sources of teacher difficulty or frustration. When should a teacher intervene? When can children solve problems without a teacher’s intervention? What kinds of routines support children as they learn to regulate themselves? What behavior is worrisome or requires a closer look? Whether experienced or new to the field, these are questions that continue to engage early childhood teachers.



Prior to each video clip, a Bank Street graduate faculty member introduces the situation, shows the video, and then engages novice teachers in a discussion. Viewers can engage in a similar process: watch, consider, and discuss. Then join the graduate student panel as they puzzle out what they saw and try to make sense of the children and the teaching situation as well as themselves as early childhood teachers.



### Learning to Teach, Part 1

30 minutes



### Learning to Teach, Part 2

17 minutes



### Learning to Teach, Part 3

16 minutes