General Behavioral Observations to keep in mind

- **Speech & Sounds**
  - Use of words or word approximations
  - Directed or undirected?
  - Requests, sharing enjoyment, directing attention, chatting?
  - Atypical non-word noises?
  - Prosody?

- **Coordinating eye contact/gestures/speech or vocalizations**
  - Gestures: pointing, reaching, clapping, beckoning, etc.
  - Can child look at parent, make a sound, and gestures all together?
  - Does child use parent’s hand as a tool?

- **Play**
  - Functional play?
  - Pretend play?
  - Imitation?
  - Repetitive or unusual play: lining up, scrambling/dropping/throwing toys
  - Getting “stuck” with a particular toy/activity

- **Body Movements**
  - Hand flapping, posturing, tensing, toe-walking, facial grimacing, hand/finger mannerisms, repetitive running/walking/spinning/bouncing/jumping

- **Sensory Differences**
  - Visual inspection
  - Seeking out textures
  - Mouthing/licking objects
  - Sound/light/texture sensitivity
  - Self-injury (e.g., scratching or biting self, head-banging)
PROCEDURES:

Introduction:

“Hi, I’m ____________. Before we get started, can I get your full name, your child’s full name & DOB, your current location (address), and a phone number to reach you if we get disconnected or if there is an emergency?” RECORD THIS INFORMATION

“I am going to ask you to play with your child with toys and objects that you have in your home. The materials we will need are:

- 3-5 toys for free-play
- Clear container with lid that has a snack or other desired object in it (e.g., stickers)

I may ask you if XXX is looking at you during some of the tasks. Please let me know if you have any questions along the way.”

Cause & Effect Toys (2 minutes)

- “Find 3-5 toys and put them on the floor/table near XXX.”
  - Toys could include: pop-up toy with buttons, musical toys, shape sorter, puzzle, Legos
- “We are going to let him/her play with these toys for a couple minutes. You can just sit back and let him/her play and respond normally if he/she tries to get your attention. We will do our best to not tell him/her directly what to do.”

Notes:

Calling Name #1

- “While XXX is not looking at you, please call his/her name one time.”
- Behavioral Observations
  - Does child look to parent with eye contact?

Notes:

Directing Child’s Attention #1

- “Find something on the wall or an object across the room that you could point to. Point to that object and say, ‘XXX, look!’ one time.”
- Behavioral Observations
  - Does child follow parent’s point and gaze to look at object?

Notes:
Joint Play
• “Now you can join XXX and play in whatever way feels natural. You can include new toys if you’d like.”

Notes:

Calling Name #2
• “While XXX is not looking at you, please call his/her name one time.”
• Behavioral Observations
  o Does child look to parent with eye contact?

Notes:

Directing Child’s Attention #1
• “Find something on the wall or an object across the room that you could point to. Point to that object and say, ‘XXX, look!’ one time.”
• Behavioral Observations
  o Does child follow parent’s point and gaze to look at object?

Notes:

Familiar Play Routine
• “Is there a game that you like to play with XXX like peek-a-boo OR ‘I’m gonna get you?’ Go ahead and play that game with XXX for a couple of minutes.”
• Behavioral Observations
  o Does child respond to parent’s bid to play?
  o Shared enjoyment? Requesting? Initiating routine?

Notes:
Ready, Set, Go

- “Find a ball, a toy car/truck, or something else that you could roll or throw. Hold the toy and say, ‘Ready, Set, Go!’ and then roll/throw the object. Pause to see how XXX reacts.”
- Repeat 2 times
- Behavioral Observations
  - Requesting with eye contact, gestures, vocalization
  - Are these behaviors coordinated?
  - Hand as tool?

Notes:

Closed container/Snack

- “Find a Tupperware or other similar container, fill it with a snack, and give it to XXX.” OR Alternatives: “Fill a container with small objects (e.g., stickers, blocks, etc.) and give to XXX.”
  - Hand container to XXX and say, ‘You can have some.’ Wait and see how XXX reacts.”
- “Give XXX one piece of snack/one sticker, etc. Close container.”
- Repeat two times
- Behavioral Observations
  - Requesting with eye contact, gestures, vocalization
  - Giving, sharing, shared enjoyment behaviors
  - Hand as tool

Notes:

Free Play + Ignoring

- “Get out some toys and let XXX play for a couple of minutes on his own. I want you to ignore XXX to see if he/she will try to get your attention. I will let you know when we are done.”

Notes:

END of ASD-PEDS