## Observations Checklist; what to look for in assessing attachment and bonding: birth to one year

Does the child...? Does the parent...?

appear alert? respond to the infant's

vocalisations?

respond to people? change voice tone when

talking to or about the

baby?

show interest in the human face? engage in face-to-face

contact with the infant?

vocalise frequently? exhibit interest in and

encourage age appropriate

development?

exhibit expected motor development? respond to child's cues?

signal discomfort? enjoy close physical

contact?

appear to be easily comforted? demonstrate the ability to

comfort the infant?

exhibit normal or excessive displeasure?

enjoy close physical contact

with the baby?

appear outgoing or seem passive or

withdrawn?

contact with he baby?

initiate close physical

have good muscle tone?

initiate positive interactions

with the infant?

identify positive qualities in

the child?

## Observation Checklist: what to look for in assessing attachment and bonding: one to five years

Does the child...? Does the parent?

explore his/her surroundings? use disciplinary measures appropriate for

the child's age? respond positively to parents?

respond to the child's overtures?

keep him/herself occupied? initiate affection?

show sign's of reciprocity?

provide effective comforting?

seem relaxed and happy? initiate positively 'taking after' a family

member?

look at people when communicating?

accept expressions of autonomy?

show emotions in a recognisable manner? seem aware of the child's cues?

react to pain and pleasure? enjoy reciprocal interactions with the

child?

engage in age-appropriate activities?

respond to the child's affectionate

overtures?

use speech appropriately? set age appropriate limits?

respond to parental limit setting? respond supportively when the child

shows fear?

react positively to physical closeness/

show a response to separation?

note the parent's return?

demonstrate normal fears?

exhibit signs of pride and joy?

show signs of empathy?

show signs of embarrassment, shame or

guilt?

## Observation Checklist: What to look for in assessing attachment and bonding: Primary school years

Does the child...? Does the parent...?

behave as though he/she likes show interest in the child's school

him/herself? performance?

show pride in accomplishments? accept expression of negative feelings?

share with others? respond to child's overtures?

accept adult imposed limits? provide opportunities for child to be with

peers? verbalise likes and dislikes?

handle problems between siblings with

try new task? fairness?

acknowledge mistakes? initiate affectionate overtures?

express a wide range of emotions? use disciplinary measures appropriate for

child's age?

establish eye contact?

assign the child age-appropriate

appear to be developing a responsibilities? conscience?

seem to enjoy this child?

know the child's likes and dislikes?

give clear messages about behaviours

look comfortable when speaking that are approve or disapproved of? with adults?

comment on positive behaviours as well react positively to parent being as negative?

physically close?

have positive interactions with

siblings and/or peers?

move in a relaxed manner?

smile easily?

## Observations Checklist: what to look for in assessing attachment and bonding: adolescents

*Is the adolescent...? Does the parent..?* 

aware of personal strengths? set appropriate limits?

aware of personal weaknesses? encourage self control?

comfortable with his/her sexuality? trust the adolescent?

engaging in positive peer interactions? show interest in and acceptance of

adolescent's friends?

performing satisfactorily in school?

display in interest in the teenager's

school performance? exhibiting signs of conscience

development? exhibit interest in adolescent's activities?

free from severe problems with the law? have reasonable expectations regarding

chores and household responsibilities?

aware of parent's values? stand by the adolescent if in trouble?

occupied in appropriate way? show affection?

accepting of adult-imposed limits?

thing this child will 'turn out' okay/

involved in interest outside the home?

developing goals for the future?

emotionally close to parents?