

Zone of Proximal Development Checklist



1. Assess the Baseline

- Observe the student's current independent abilities (e.g., motor, cognitive, or social skills).
- Document what the student can do without assistance.
- Identify tasks that are consistent with their developmental level.

2. Set Goals Just Beyond Current Abilities

- Identify tasks the student cannot yet accomplish independently but can achieve with support.
- Write clear, measurable goals for these tasks.
- Align goals with curriculum standards or developmental milestones.

3. Provide Scaffolding

- Break tasks into smaller, manageable steps.
- Use visual supports, such as diagrams, charts, or schedules.
- Provide verbal or physical prompts to guide the student.
- Model tasks before asking the student to attempt them.
- Collaborate with peers or other staff for additional support.

4. Monitor Progress

- Regularly observe and document the student's progress.
- Assess when to reduce or adjust support based on their improvement.
- Celebrate milestones to build confidence and motivation.
- Use feedback to refine scaffolding techniques.

5. Encourage Collaboration

- Pair the student with peers who can model skills or collaborate effectively.
- Incorporate group activities to foster teamwork and shared learning.
- Use strategies like Think, Pair, Share to promote interaction.
- Engage parents or caregivers in reinforcing skills at home.

6. Reflect and Adjust

- Reflect on the effectiveness of your strategies.
- Adjust tasks or scaffolding as needed to keep challenges aligned with the student's abilities.
- Seek feedback from colleagues or specialists to improve outcomes.

