

Interview Guide: East Central Residents

Sample



Interview information

Participant ID#:	
Recorder/file#:	
Date/time of interview:	
Interviewer initials:	
Settlement/Region:	

Participant information

Participant age:	
Participant gender:	
Language:	
Length of time in community (years & months):	
Number of children:	
Ages and gender of children:	

Consent

By signing my name here, I confirm that the participant has provided verbal consent to participate in this activity.	Enumerator 1:
	Enumerator 2:
By signing my name here, I confirm that the participant has provided	Enumerator 1:

verbal consent to an audio recording being taken of this activity.	Enumerator 2:
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Instructions for the Interviewer

Objective

The objective of these interviews is to better understand 1) the current state of play-based learning within target communities, 2) the general landscape surrounding play-based learning, and 3) potential touchpoints for intervention.

The interview questions can be answered in any order and the answers to some questions may come up naturally during the conversation, in which case you can skip those questions. The interviewer may also follow-up with additional questions where interesting and/or relevant topics arise. The participant has the right at any time to skip questions they do not feel comfortable answering and can stop the interview at any point.

Key formatting clues:

- The plain text in each section below can be read aloud to the participant.
- **Bolded text** is absolutely necessary to say. The rest should be asked if time permits.
- *[Italicised font, in brackets]* is for your benefit, and is not meant to be read aloud.
- [prompts or topics to explore] are listed at times in brackets for you to offer only if the person is struggling to answer the question on their own, or has misunderstood it.

Guide timings

The timings below provide a guide for how long you should spend on each topic covered in the guide. While it is important to cover all main topics in the guide, feel

free to spend more time on topics that you feel give more interesting insights, for example because the participants have a lot to say about it. You should not spend more than an hour on this discussion.

Consent	3 mins
Introduction	2 mins
Topic 0: General Questions	5 mins
Topic 1: Caregiver engagement with children	10 mins
Topic 2: Attitudes towards play	10 mins
Topic 3: Current state of play in target communities	20 mins
Wrap up	5 mins
(Extra) Topic 4: Parental engagement in child education	5 mins
(Extra) Topic 5: Technological barriers/enablers to learning	5 mins

Interview guide

Consent Statement
<p>[Important: Before you begin, read the Consent Statement to the participant. You should not conduct an interview if they do not want to participate.]</p>
<p>PlayMatters is a consortium of organisations, including Plan International, Innovations for Poverty Action, the International Rescue Committee, The Behavioural Insights Team, and Warchild Holland. Today, I represent PlayMatters for [Plan International / IRC / Warchild Holland] as an enumerator.</p> <p>I am talking to you today because I would like to interview you in your role as a caregiver. However, before I do so, I will need your consent. Let me give you a bit more information first. If you agree, we will conduct a 45-60 minute interview focused on your experiences and thoughts about children's learning. You do not need to provide any information that you are not comfortable sharing.</p>

We will take notes during the interview and, if you are happy with that, take an audio recording. The notes and recording will only be shared with staff at [WCH/ IRC/ Plan] and our partner organisation working on the research for this project, the Behavioural Insights Team. All notes will be kept strictly confidential and only used for the purposes we've just mentioned. This means they will be stored on a password-protected computer, which only researchers will be able to access.

The answers you provide to our questions will inform the development of a report to the International Rescue Committee, Plan International, and Warchild Holland. This report may include direct quotes from our interview. However, we will not share your name or add any information that people could use to identify you.

Do you have any questions for me at this point? *[answer any questions]*

Now I will read out a few questions to you. Please answer yes or no to each.

[pause for participant to say yes/ no after each question]

- A. Has the consent statement, that is the explanation I just gave you, been read to you and do you understand what will happen if you participate in the interview?
- B. Have you been able to ask any questions you might have?
- C. Do you understand that this is a voluntary interview, that you can choose to end at any time, without giving a reason?
- D. Do you agree that the project partners may securely store the notes from this interview?
- E. Do you agree to the information gained from the interview being published in a report that will be shared within the PlayMatters consortium?
- F. Do you agree to participate in the interview?

[Only continue if the participant has answered 'yes' to all questions]

- A. Are you happy for us to take an audio recording of the interview?
- B. [if yes to A] Do you agree that the project partners may securely store the audio recording?

[If participant has given consent to record, turn on audio recorder; if no consent to record, take notes]

[If verbal consent and consent to record given: Turn on recorder to record consent]

Since I will need a record of your consent, I will read out the same question that I just presented to you again and will need you to reply in the same way as you have just done.

- A. Has the consent statement, that is the explanation I just gave you, been read to you and do you understand what will happen if you participate in the interview?
- B. Have you been able to ask any questions you might have?
- C. Do you understand that this is a voluntary interview, that you can choose to end at any time, without giving a reason?
- D. Do you agree that the project partners may securely store the notes from this interview?
- E. Do you agree to participate in the interview?
- F. Are you happy for us to take an audio recording of the interview?
- G. [if yes to A] Do agree that the project partners may securely store the audio recording?

Introduction

[Before you begin, please make sure to ask the participant where they would feel most comfortable completing the interview, and whether they would like to sit or stand.]

Thank you for agreeing to spend some time talking with me today. The purpose of this interview is to better understand more about you and your child. The information you provide, along with others, may be used to develop a programme to support children's learning.

During the interview, I'm going to ask you a series of questions about yourself, your child, and how he/she plays and learns. Please note that the questions I am going to ask don't have right or wrong answers, we are interested in hearing about your experiences. Also, as we discussed in the consent form, this conversation is completely confidential, which means that no one will know what we've discussed, and we can skip any questions you prefer not to answer.

[For participants who are unfamiliar with the project; skip if they are familiar]: We are working on a programme to improve learning among children in refugee and host communities, ages 3-12. Our goal is to understand how children are currently learning and if there are ways to make it more accessible and engaging.

Before we get started, do you have any questions for me?

Topic 0: General Questions - 5 mins

First, I'd like to get to know you a bit better.

- 1. Who lives in your household with you?**
 - a. How many children are there?
 - b. How old are the children?
 - c. What gender are the children?

Topic 1: Caregiver engagement with children - 10 mins

Now, I would like to know more about how you spend time with the child/children under your care.

- 1. Can you tell me about a typical day with your children in your care?**
 - a. What do you do during the day? [prompt: activities, amount of time spent together]
 - b. And in the evening? [prompt: activities, amount of time spent together]
- 2. Do you share household caring responsibilities with someone else?**
 - a. Who else?
 - b. How much time do they spend with the children?
 - i. Is this more, or less time than you?
 - c. What do they do with the children?
- 3. If you needed support or advice about your children, who would you ask?**

[prompt: other family members, friends or community groups]

 - a. Why?

Topic 2: Attitudes towards play - 10 mins

Now, I am going to describe some children to you. After I have described them, I will ask you some questions.

1. Mitik is 8 years old. She often plays pretend games. She likes to pretend she is a doctor and pretends to give her siblings check-ups. Sometimes, Mitik can play so much, she forgets to do her chores.
 - a. What do you think about Mitik playing pretend games?
 - b. What should Mitik's [caregiver role] do about Mitik playing and forgetting to do her chores?
 - c. What do you think Mitik's parents like about Mitik playing?
 - d. What do you think Mitik's parents dislike about Mitik playing?

2. Etefu is 10 years old. She and her brother Emanuel like to play outside a lot. They pretend they are driving motorbikes and crash into each other and fall on the dirt. Etefu's grandmother thinks she is too old to play like a boy.
 - a. What do you think about Etefu playing with her brother?
 - b. Etefu's grandmother thinks she is too old to play like a boy. Why do you think Etefu's grandmother thinks she is too old to play like a boy?
 - c. Do you agree or disagree with Etefu's grandmother?
 - Why do you think this?

Topic 3: State of play in target communities - 20 mins

We're now going to discuss 'play' a little more.

To start, let's talk about [name of one child / your eldest / your youngest].

[Facilitator to probe around one or two children under the respondent's care].

1. What does 'play' mean to you?
 - a. What makes you say that?

2. When children are not in school, where do they usually spend time in this community?
 - Is there a place where they can play?
 - What about boys?

- What about girls?
- What about children with disabilities

3. Tell me about what they do for fun.

- a. What does he/she like to do when on his/her own?
- b. What games does he/she play with other kids?
- c. Does he/she ever play pretend?
- d. Do they play active games, like football, chase or skipping?
 - If so, which ones?
 - If not, why not?
- e. What do you think about those kinds of games?
 - Are they good or bad for them?
 - Why/why not?

4. What things does [child name] play with? [prompt: sticks, toys, clay, books, tyres]

[Ask about one or two items they mention]

- a. Where do they find this?
- b. Who gives it to them? *[Probe: caregivers, friends, or teachers]*
- c. Is this good or bad for him/her? Why/why not?

5. What role do adults have in play? [prompt: supervise or play with children]

- a. What do they do?
- b. Why?

Wrap up - 5 mins

Before we wrap up, is there anything else you would like to tell me?

[Check that you have all the demographic information you need to fill out the table at the beginning of this form. If not, take a minute to ask those questions and complete the form]

We are hoping to recruit more participants like yourself who would be able to provide more insight into this community. Do you have any recommendations about who we should reach out to? *[collect potential participant contact information]*

That's the end of our interview today. Thank you so much for your time. Do you have any questions for me? *[Answer any questions]*

If you have any additional thoughts or questions, please feel free to contact me *[provide contact details]*.

ONLY ASK TOPICS 4 & 5 IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL TIME

Topic 4. Parental engagement in child education - 5 mins

Now, I want to ask you a bit more about ECD center/school in this community.
[Only ask if the caregiver has a child who goes to school or ECD centers]

Okay, let's talk about *[name of one child / your eldest / your youngest]*. *[Facilitator to probe around one or two children under the respondent's care]*.

1. Is your child in school or an ECD center? *[Only ask following questions if the child is in school or ECD center]*
 - a. How often do you talk to your child about their school or ECD center?

2. Normally, do you speak to the teachers?
 - a. How often?
 - b. How do you get into contact with the teachers?
 - c. In general, what is good about speaking with teachers?
 - d. In general, what is bad about speaking with teachers?

Topic 5. Technological barriers/enablers to learning - 5 mins

I will now ask you a bit about the technology that you use.

1. What kind of technology, if any, do you use? We mean things like phones or tablets.
 - a. *[If yes]* Where do you use these?
 - b. *[If yes]* What sorts of things do you use your *(insert tech)* for?

2. Do your children use any technology? What kind?
 - a. What does *[child name]* use it for?
 - b. Do you and *[child name]* use it together?

3. Do you have access to radio?

- a. [If yes:] What do you like listening to on the radio?
- b. How often do you listen?
- c. When do you listen?
- d. Do others in the community listen to the radio?
- e. Does your child also listen to the radio?
 - i. If so, what do they listen to? When?

- 4. Do you have access to television?
 - f. [If yes:] What do you like watching on tv?
 - g. How often do you watch tv?
 - h. When do you watch tv?
 - i. Do others in the community watch tv?
 - j. Does your child also watch tv?
 - i. If so, what do they watch? When?