Suggested Ways Individual Early Childhood Professionals Can Use the Core Competencies

1. Professionals can use the core competencies to assess where they are now and where they would like to be.
2. Helps professionals set clear and specific goals for what skills they want to develop.
3. Professionals can now compare their knowledge and skills with others working in early childhood and find those with stronger skills and learn from them.
4. Professionals can more clearly see specific directions they can take to improve their skills.
5. Professionals can more readily identify where their strengths are in providing early care and education services to young children.
6. Professionals can conduct an annual assessment of their skills and evaluate progress in developing new skills.
7. Helps professionals clarify what reading, research, training, or mentors they can work with to improve their skills.
8. Helps professionals better identify learning opportunities that can advance their skills.
9. Helps professionals better identify their strengths.
10. Professionals can feel better motivated to improve when they more clearly understand skills that can be improved through learning and practice.
11. Professionals have consistent and clear understanding of their responsibilities in early childhood care and education.
12. Professionals can work together with other early childhood professionals to discuss and increase their understanding of what each of the skills looks like in practice and possible examples of how people use the skills.
13. Professionals can use the core competencies to make sure they are developing as a professional and ensure that their skills and competencies are what is commonly expected from early childhood professionals.
14. Professionals can have a broader perspective of how knowledge and skills can improve over time and with continued learning and practice.
15. Professionals can more readily identify their professional development needs through self-assessment and intentional planning.
16. New professionals to the field have clearer expectations of what the profession of early care and education looks like.