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### **The pay a visit method**

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What will you learn about language and literacy when using systematic observation methodology?

Over a period of three years (2015-2018), the National Centre for Reading led an investigative case study in 10 Danish day-care centres (with children aged one to six). The study was based on focused ethnography and on the anthropological "surprising practices" framework (Knoblauch, 2005, Hasse, 2011), and focused on what social educators could learn and change in the literacy environments of day-care centres.

We developed and tested an observation sheet, a "status for literacy" self-evaluation sheet, and a team-meeting structure. Participating social educators would pay a visit to a neighbouring day-care centre and observe literacy practices and literacy environments there. Afterwards, they reported their observations and led a discussion with their own colleagues in order to evaluate their own existing practices and decide on future local experiments.

In this workshop, participants are invited to experiment with the "pay a visit" method tools and discuss what you might learn from observations and team discussions.