



# Unlocking the Learning

## M9.2 Setting Attainable Goals in Home Child Care

Setting goals is a powerful tool for enhancing your family child care business. Follow these six steps to ensure your goals are not only achievable but also aligned with your vision:

**Clarify Your Desires:** Choose goals that resonate with your true aspirations. Whether it's creating a nurturing environment or improving your program space, ensure it aligns with what you genuinely want for your family child care.

**Avoid Contradictions:** Make sure your goals work harmoniously. If one goal conflicts with another, it can hinder your overall success. For instance, balancing family time and networking efforts requires thoughtful consideration.

**Positive Formulation:** Frame your goals in positive terms. Instead of saying what you don't want, express what you aim to achieve. For instance, focus on providing nutritious snacks daily rather than eliminating unhealthy options.

**Detailed Descriptions:** Specify your goals with clarity. Instead of vague statements like "new infant equipment," outline precisely what you need, such as "a new playpen, 2 high chairs, an infant seat, and an activity center."

**Set the Bar High:** Ensure your goals challenge and inspire you. If pursuing higher education is your dream, don't settle for short-term workshops. Aim for a realistic yet ambitious path that aligns with your aspirations.

**Record and Review:** Document your goals in a notebook or digital format. Regularly revisit and revise them as circumstances change. This process reinforces your commitment and allows you to make adjustments when needed.



Remember, carefully setting goals and making plans to achieve them are effective ways to plan for success. Be kind to yourself, keep trying if you don't succeed right away. Recognize improvements and celebrate achievements big or small!