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### **Stage 1: Collecting data**

This data literacy tip sheet outlines practical information   
and suggestions to help services collect data for their   
School Readiness Funding plan. It aligns with the Collect Data

###### (information) stage of the Early Years Planning Cycle.

*Early Years Planning Cycle*

##### **Types of data and data sources**

* **Quantitative data** can be counted or measured with numbers.
* **Qualitative data** is descriptive and captures thoughts, opinions and/or experiences of people.
* **Secondary data** refers to existing data.
* **Primary data** is new information that you decide to collect for a specific purpose.

There is a range of existing data that can help answer the questions you have under the SRF priority areas. This includes community/child level, educator level and service level data. The table below describes each level of data and lists common data sources.

*Table 1: Common data sources for SRF planning*

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| **Data level** | **Data sources** | |
| **Community/child level data** provides a picture of the recurrent learning, development, health, and wellbeing needs of children and families that typically attend your service. | * Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) * Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) * Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) * Local Government Data including kindergarten participation, Municipal Early Years Plan/ Council Plans * SEHQ LGA Summaries (School Entrant Health Questionnaire) * Trends in transition statements | * Trends in English Online Data (or other relevant school data) * Discussions with teachers at schools, MCH nurses * Formative and Summative assessment information both norm-referenced and teacher designed * Anecdotal observations of children’s learning behaviour * Cohort data trends i.e. numbers of children with NDIS/ECIS Plan/KIS funding   PSFO referrals, referrals to child health services |
| **Service level data** will provide valuable data to inform what areas of practice and pedagogy to focus on at a service level. | * Reflection of previous SRF plan/implementation * Quality Improvement Plans * Service Improvement Plans * Assessment and Rating * Parent Surveys * Service Occupancy * Reconciliation Action Plans | * ISS Applications * Enrolment form data * Number of children with Kinder Fee Subsidy * Number of children enrolled in Early Start Kindergarten * Discussions with families/parent-teacher meeting |
| **Educator level data** will help you to think about staff professional development needs | * Educator experience,qualifications * Professional learning plans/Appraisals * Staff surveys * Trends/issues from staff meetings * Behaviour Plan trends | * Trends in issues arising from educator/team reflections * Trends in children’s learning goals * Trends/issues from staff meetings * Educational plan/classroom reflections |