August Newsletter 2024

Supporting Young Children's Science Learning

Have you ever wondered what kind of science activities there are for young children? Do you think science is just for older children? Well, we used to think that also. What can we do to help young children in and out of the classroom with science? For 10 tips and 3 activities to support children's science learning.

Please see the attached Article

A Peek at Our Weeks

Wk. 1 All about me

Wk. 2 Science & Senses

Wk. 3 Family & Friends

Wk. 4 Feelings

Upcoming Events

Date Change Children's Museum field trip Aug 16th
We need to know what parents can attend the field
trip. Please inform the teachers if you can join us.

Parent and grandparent reading time all month long.

On Tuesdays, and Thursdays, at 10a. Parents or grandparents if you are interested. Please let us know.

August Birthdays

Vincent 2nd

Desiree 2nd (Mychael's mom)

Johnny 4th (JaZyiah & Emari's Dad)

Emari 18th

Tamyra 19th (Amorah's mom)

Kaiden 23rd

Remember when a family is inside signing in let them finish before entering.



Cooking Corner

Wk. 1 Fruit bowl

Wk. 2 Applesauce Bran Muffins

Wk. 3 Strawberry Crescent rolls

Wk. 4 Flatbread pizza

Loving Kindness Education & Learning Center 8.1.24

10 Tips to Support Children's Science Learning



<u>HomeOur Work</u> / <u>For Families</u> / <u>Articles for Families on Science, Nutrition, and Safety</u> / 10 Tips to Support Children's Science Learning

By Yi-Chin Lan

1. Value your child's questions.

"Mommy/Daddy, why is the moon following us?" With this question, a child lets us know she is thinking about how the world works. We can respond in ways that encourage her scientific thinking. Think of how you might respond. Do you think it's adorable? (It is! But the question also shows your child is thinking!) What can you do if you don't know the answer? (Don't worry. Your child just might want to share something that intrigues her.) Enjoy discussing the questions your child asks. Encourage her to share her perspective and observations.

2. Explore and find the answers together.

You don't have to be your child's encyclopedia and quickly try to answer all your child's questions. Responding with "What do you think?" or "I don't know but we can find out together" can stimulate more thought and additional questions. Explore and find the answers together.

3. Give children time and space to explore.

Children learn science through trial and error. They need time to experiment, try things out, and think on their own. Wait before jumping in with "correct" answers. Give your child the time and space to explore and discover on her own.

4. Accept that explorations are often messy.

Whether it's outdoor exploration with mud and sticks or indoors with water, children are likely to get dirty when they explore materials. Dress children in old clothing and tell them it's ok to get dirty.

5. Learn from mistakes together.

If an experiment goes wrong, take advantage and investigate with your child to see what went wrong. A mistake can lead to all kinds of possibilities and it provides opportunities for you and your child to refine your ideas, understanding, and hypotheses.

6. Invite curiosity.

Science learning begins with curiosity. Observations and questions can create a climate of discovery – key to scientific learning. Children can learn a lot about science even at bath time. Let your child ask her own questions but you can also stimulate curiosity. For instance, when seeing a rubber duck float in the water, invite him to think by saying, "I wonder if the soap will also float?" See what questions she asks and what experiments she tries.

7. Support further exploration.

Intentional adult interactions with children can extend their learning. When the moment is right — maybe when she's done exploring on her own, offer a suggestion to extend her exploration. Guide your child by asking questions like, "What might happen if we try this?"

Share some things you find while exploring, - a beautiful striped rock, for example. This lets your child know there is always something worthy of our attention and investigation.

8. Encourage children to record their observations.

Writing, drawing, or taking photographs are all ways to record observations - an important scientific skill. Such records allow children to keep track of what they saw, heard, questioned, or discovered. When you notice your child is interested in something (like the moon, leaves changing on the trees, or the growth of a plant) you can suggest ways for them to record what they have observed. "Do you want to draw that?" or "Do you want to take photos?" or "Do you want me to help you write down what you noticed?"

9. Make good use of your electronic devices.

Take pictures of a stunning butterfly, record frog sounds, use a website or app to learn more about a specific phenomenon or creature.

10. Use items you have at home to experiment and explore

You don't need to spend money buying science supplies. Here are some science questions your child can consider using materials you might have at home.