

Approaches To Learning

33 to 48 months



Provide materials such as blocks, boxes, or items for which there doesn't have to be a "correct" way to play with them. This allows for open-ended play. At this age, play will be more specific and detailed.

Encourage your child to participate in routines such as getting dressed, brushing teeth, combing hair, using a tissue, etc. with assistance when needed or asked for. Encourage independence.

Provide objects or toys that interest them.

Provide new tasks that are challenging. Encourage them to persist in working at it. If it doesn't work, give helpful hints that allow them to try a different approach.

Set up a music stand using pots, pans, wooden spoons, metal spoons, or other objects that will make assorted sounds.

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When a difficult or challenging task is completed, praise and encourage your child.

Encourage them to ask questions when exploring.

Allow preschoolers to participate in setting the table, cleaning up toys, or other chores.

Encourage harder tasks such as putting on their own coat, zipping, or buttoning.

Engage in make-believe play with your child. Use objects around the house to promote imagination skills.

Create a collage using nature items such as leaves, flowers, or other light items that can be glued to paper.

Make up dances to a variety of songs: slow, fast, loud, soft.