

EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING cont.

- Choose high quality *developmentally appropriate* apps and software, such as those recommended at <http://childrenstech.com/>
- Occasionally have children help you record data in a chart on the computer. Print and display at the children's eye-level.
- Use a variety of devices with the children, such as a vegetable-peeler and an apple-peeling machine. Make ice cream with an old-fashioned, hand-operated ice cream maker, and then with an electric machine.
- Talk about *cause and effect*. Point out examples in day-to-day life such as turning a knob to make a toy move or open a door, turning on a mixer to stir ingredients, and using switches to cause an effect, such as turning on a light.
- Take a walk and talk about which things found naturally in the environment and which things people have made. Graph and discuss the findings together. Keep in mind that young children may have different reasoning for their conclusions. The important thing is the discussion and reasoning, not the right answers.

- Choose interesting science topics as themes and long-term projects that children can *investigate* over a period of weeks and months. Engaging topics may include rocks, insects, pets, birds, and recycling.
- Encourage children to clean up their environment by clearing the table and picking up toys or litter inside or outside.
- Talk about the many ways we can recycle and reuse materials. Encourage children to use both sides of a sheet of paper. Visit a recycling center if available.
- Talk with children about the fact that science and engineering help us to discover and solve problems in the world. Emphasize that both boys and girls are good at science and engineering.

