

**DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT****SUB-DOMAIN: LEARNING APPROACHES****CURIOSITY, MOTIVATION, EXPLORATION, AND EXPERIMENTATION****GOAL 1: CHILDREN SHOW CURIOSITY AND INTEREST IN LEARNING AND EXPERIMENTING.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<b>16 to 38 Months</b>	Deliberately explores and experiments with people and objects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Explores immediate environment (e.g. asks about a new object and actively searches through a collection of toys).</li> <li>▪ Shows interest in new activities and others' activities.</li> <li>▪ Uses simple "wh" questions (where, who, and what).</li> <li>▪ Asks about people in their own environment.</li> <li>▪ Turns objects around, upside down, and inside out to examine the characteristics of the object.</li> <li>▪ Opens, closes, fills, empties, and builds up and knocks down objects and containers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make child's surroundings safe and inviting to encourage exploration.</li> <li>▪ Point out objects for gazing at and listening to around the room and outside (e.g. clouds that look like cotton candy or shaped like a sheep), pictures that hang high up, light patterns caused by the sun and the curtains on the windows, a tinkling bell strung in a tree that rings in the breeze, or the sound of a big truck backing up outside.</li> <li>▪ Offer a variety of safe objects/toys that can be used in multiple ways.</li> <li>▪ Ask simple questions using who, why, and what.</li> <li>▪ Respond to children's questions with genuine remarks.</li> <li>▪ Wonder aloud with child about why, who, what, when, and where.</li> <li>▪ Describe and comment about what you see around you.</li> <li>▪ Take cues from a child to know when to add information and when to let the child simply explore an object without words.</li> <li>▪ Read and tell stories that introduce children to diverse people, places, and cultures.</li> <li>▪ Offer materials and activities that match child's exploration style (a child who is slow to warm may respond best to an activity that allows play at the edge of the group, a child with vision impairment may explore best with materials that have a variety of textures).</li> <li>▪ Offer sensory play to include water and sand toys.</li> </ul>