

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

SUB-DOMAIN: LEARNING APPROACHES

CREATIVITY AND INVENTIVENESS

GOAL 2: CHILDREN GENERATE/CREATE NEW IDEAS, APPROACHES, AND ACTIVITIES IN DAILY ROUTINES.

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
16 to 38 Months	Uses imagination and pretend play to experiment with objects and roles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invents new uses for everyday materials (e.g. bangs on pots for drum or uses bucket for hat). ▪ Approaches tasks experimentally; adapting the use of objects as the play evolves. ▪ Pairs and groups items that work together (gets the dustpan when an adult is sweeping the floor). ▪ Seeks and engages in pretend play and creating things. ▪ Uses creative language to describe events, sometimes with made-up sounds. ▪ Builds with blocks and other manipulatives. ▪ Acts out everyday activities using dolls, costumes, and everyday items. ▪ Embellishes roles from the familiar environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Model use of a variety of familiar and new materials and activities. ▪ Offer art materials and a place to use them without adult-created models or specific instructions. ▪ Allow child to mix toys or materials. ▪ In child care, schedule the daily activities so children have time to become absorbed in play. ▪ When a child is absorbed in play, avoid interrupting the child's thinking. ▪ Take cues from the child when a prop is needed, or an embellishment of an idea will extend the play. ▪ Offer a place where children create using different media (clay, collage, paint, music, dance, block construction). ▪ Engage child in exploration of raw (messy) materials such as sand, water, rocks, outdoor exploration, and food exploration. ▪ Provide time and spaces for a child to talk about and revisit their creative work. ▪ Use open-ended questions and descriptive language when interacting with child. ▪ In child care, ensure that child has props from their home culture to support pretend play. ▪ At mealtimes, talk with children about their ideas and creations. ▪ Make up stories with child.