

**DOMAIN 4: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE****SUB-DOMAIN: SCIENCE****SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY****GOAL 42: CHILDREN OBSERVE, DESCRIBE, AND COLLECT INFORMATION BY EXPLORING THE WORLD AROUND THEM.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<b>16 to 38 Months</b>	Describes observable characteristics of objects, people, and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ With continued exposure to the same toys and objects, explores novel and multiple ways of using the materials.</li> <li>▪ Expands on choices for outdoor play.</li> <li>▪ Plays with, explores, and experiments with water, sand, and mud.</li> <li>▪ Notices, understands, and expresses personal wants, needs, and preferences.</li> <li>▪ Demonstrates curiosity about the natural environment and identifies and labels the Earth's materials.</li> <li>▪ Gathers, groups, and labels natural materials.</li> <li>▪ Uses varying sensory exploration of objects to see similarities and differences.</li> <li>▪ Has a repertoire of single words to name and describe natural phenomenon and objects (e.g. rain, sunny, muddy, hot, bird).</li> <li>▪ Explores and investigates physical properties of living and nonliving things.</li> <li>▪ Shows understanding of object permanence; looking for people and objects that have disappeared.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage child to explore new and unfamiliar toys and objects to find multiple ways for using them.</li> <li>▪ Provide child daily with varied opportunities to explore, describe, and discuss the similarities and differences observed with natural objects and phenomenon.</li> <li>▪ Talk about tastes, textures, temperature, and smells of food during meals.</li> <li>▪ Provide child with varied opportunities to play, explore, and experiment with water, sand, and mud; and offer words to label what happens as they use funnels, tubes, containers, and utensils.</li> <li>▪ Provide child with child-safe bubble solution and a variety of wands and household items (ladles with holes, spatulas, funnels, strawberry baskets, straws), and offer words that describe the bubbles that each item makes.</li> <li>▪ Support, encourage, and guide child's observations and explorations by discussing and asking questions about their findings without predetermined outcomes or expectations.</li> <li>▪ Provide opportunities to label and describe Earth's materials while on nature walks.</li> <li>▪ Provide opportunities to explore and investigate physical properties of living and nonliving things.</li> <li>▪ Offer uninterrupted time for children to investigate and play with items in the natural environment.</li> </ul>

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