



Teaching PLAY Tips

How to seize opportunities for spontaneous learning:

- A trusting relationship is the foundation for all interactions
- Follow the child's lead – MAKE IT THEIR IDEA!
- Read the child's cues
- Attend to sensory needs
- Move up and down the functional developmental ladder as needed
- Go for the GLEAM IN THE EYE!!!
- Think about your pace and rhythm - Go slow
- Hold back, WAIT! Silence is OK!
- Extend circles of communication
 - Don't take "NO" for an answer!!! CLOSE EVERY CIRCLE
 - Expand, expand, expand!
 - PROCESS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PRODUCT
- Use anticipation to engage
- Work face to face
- Use AFFECT - be dynamic!
- Encourage child to initiate and be intentional – MAKE IT THEIR IDEA!
- Encourage MOTOR-PLANNING
 - Don't do for the child what they can do for themselves
 - Give the child time to "Do it all by themselves!"
 - Support pride in being independent
- Encourage the child to problem solve and THINK for themselves
 - Prompt the child to THINK, not to DO
- Encourage the child to be creative and have ORIGINAL IDEAS
- Encourage the child to share his/her EMOTIONS
- Encourage the child to give reasons for their ideas, expand and negotiate
 - Give multiple choice if needed
- Encourage peer interactions