ABC’s and D of Play

Increasing Early Learning Opportunities Training Module

Activities for increasing early literacy opportunities and skills with children 3 to 5 through play

Developed by: Elizabeth Beavers, MS Special Education
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Importance of Play

“There are few places outside his own play where a child can contribute to the world in which he finds himself.”  Author Unknown

Play is a vehicle for learning the things a child wants to know and for introducing new things.
Allow children to lead

Notice what children are looking at and interested in

Watch the children’s expressions and exaggerate your own when interacting

Look to the body language of children
Be Sure to talk WITH children

Repeat Sounds
Make Associations
Sing & Play with Words
Play Word Games
Talk with children about everything

Name what you see
Describe what you are doing
Ask Questions
Create New Experiences

- Encourage Curiosity
- Create Adventures
- Rehearse and Extend New Skills
- Take Trips
Discover the fun of books

Read Aloud

Use different voice tones and inflections

Make reading a part of your daily routine

Encourage children to talk about books

Model for children so they learn to listen

Ask questions

Expand on story experiences through play
Embrace Child Created Moments

• Making the most of shared moments involves:
  o Getting on children’s level
  o Imitating your children
  o Interpreting what is happening
  o Taking turns
  o Commenting about things you observe
  o Asking children questions then waiting for responses
Thank you for coming

Have fun playing and learning with your children