# Exploring the "Why" Behind Experiences



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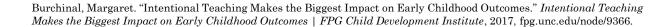
### Why would you plan this experience?



#### Why is the "why" important?

- Research indicates that the strongest connection between the beneficial results for children involve what teachers teach and how they teach it (Burchinal, 2017)
- Helps you set goals and objectives to guide planning
- Invites you to incorporate assessment as part of the process
- Guides you when individualizing
- Makes learning meaningful for children





#### Identifying the "why"

- What are your goals?
- What areas of development do you want to address?
- Are these areas the same for each child?
   Why not?
- How do you think this experience will benefit each child?



### What are the 10 areas of development?



- LanguageDevelopment
- Literacy Development
- Math Knowledge
- Logic & Reasoning
- Science Knowledge
- Approaches to Learning
- Creative Arts
- Physical Development & Health
- Social & Emotional Development
- Social Studies Knowledge



#### What is Language Development?



Listening

Speaking (verbal)

NonverbalCommunication

### What is Literacy Knowledge?

- Phonological Awareness (letter sounds)
- Appreciation for Books
- AlphabetKnowledge
- Concepts about Print
- BeginningWriting



#### What is Math Knowledge?



- Number Concepts & Operations
- Geometry
- Positional Concepts
- Patterning
- Measurement (standard & nonstandard)

#### What is Logic & Reasoning?

- Problem-Solving
- Reasoning
- Representation



### What is Science Knowledge?



- Exploring & Thinking Like a Scientist
- Making & TestingPredictions
- Observation Skills
- Knowledge about the World (Natural/Physical)

## What are Approaches to Learning?

- Curiosity &Desire to LearnNew Things
- Persistence
- Patience
- Cooperation



#### What are Creative Arts?



- Music
- Dance & Movement
- Fine Arts
- Creative Dramatics

### What is Physical Development & Health?

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine MotorSkills
- Safety
- Knowledge & Practice of Healthy Habits



### What is Social & Emotional Development?



- Social Interactions & Relationships
- Self-Concept
- Emotions & Self-Regulation
- CharacterEducation

### What is Social Studies Knowledge?



- Knowledge of Family & Community
- Cultural Differences (People & Places)
- Caring for the Environment
- History

# When planning experiences, how do the 10 developmental areas play into the "why?"



### What areas of development do you think can be addressed during this experience?

- Language Development
- Literacy Development
- Math Knowledge
- Logic & Reasoning
- Science Knowledge



- Approaches to Learning
- Creative Arts
- Physical
  Development
  & Health
- Social & Emotional Development
  - Social Studies Knowledge



#### Just a few areas could be...

- Language Development: Building both receptive & expressive language skills as well as vocabulary – What do you like about playing in the leaves?
- Science Knowledge: Encouraging using the senses to explore –
   How do the leaves feel? Smell? Sound?
- Math Knowledge: Comparing & contrasting...How are the leaves the same? How are they different? Counting skills – Can you make a set with (number) of leaves? How many leaves do you think were on that tree?
- Social Studies Knowledge: Sharing information about family –
   Do you have any trees in your yard that have red leaves? Orange?
   Yellow?
- Approaches to Learning: Working together How big do you think the pile of leaves will get if we all work together to make it?

- Language Development
- Literacy Development
- Math Knowledge
- Logic & Reasoning
- Science Knowledge



Approaches to Learning

**Creative Arts** 

Physical
Development
& Health

Social & Emotional Development

Social Studies Knowledge

Let's try that again.

What developmental areas is this child addressing as he plays with blocks?

- Language Development
- LiteracyDevelopment
- Math Knowledge
- Logic & Reasoning
- Science Knowledge



- Approaches to Learning
- Creative Arts
- Physical
  Development
  & Health
- Social & Emotional Development
- Social Studies Knowledge

What experience could you plan with these plates? What would be the "why" behind the experience? Cover as many developmental areas as you can.



### Questions?

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