



Ready for Play and Learning

Handout JS35

Play is learning! When you play and interact on your child's level, they're learning important concepts like social skills, language skills, and much, much more! Interactive play with others builds early brain development for your child.



Before starting an activity with your child, it's important to know if they're **READY** for play and learning. Below are some questions you can ask yourself **BEFORE** you start an activity. When you prepare yourself and your child for an activity, fun and learning can happen more easily.





Cut out each statement below. Paste them in the following order beside each question mark on your Ready for Play and Learning handout.

What cues and signals is my child giving me that tell me they're ready to play and learn or they're not ready to play or learn?

Are they emotionally ready to play and learn? If not, what can I do to best support my child right now?

What distractions do I need to eliminate to capture their curiosity? (For example, I may put my phone away, turn off the TV, reduce the clutter, etc.)

What can I do when my child is playing and learning to make it more fun for the both of us? (For example, I may make my voice and face expressive, smile, take turns, etc.)

What are some concepts or skills I'd like to work with my child on while they're playing and learning? (For example, helping them learn social skills, saying new words, recognizing colors, etc.)

How will playing with my child and helping them learn new skills/concepts support the qualities and characteristics I want them to develop?

What are some cues and signals that my child might give me to let me know that it's time to stop the activity and do something else?










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-  What can I do when my child is playing and learning to make it more fun for both of us (make my voice and face expressive, smile, take turns, etc.)?
-  What are some concepts or skills I'd like to work with my child on while they're playing and learning (social skills, saying new words, learning colors, etc.)?
-  How will playing with my child and helping them learn new skills/concepts support the qualities and characteristics I want them to develop?
-  What are some cues and signals that my child might give me to let me know that it's time to stop the activity and do something else?