



Creativity ELOF Goals for Infants and Toddlers

Goal IT-ATL 8. Child uses creativity to increase understanding and earning.

Goal IT-ATL 9. Child shows imagination in play and interactions with others.



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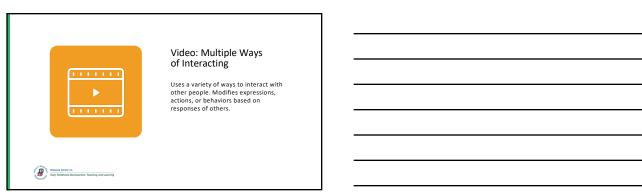
Why is Creativity Important?

- Rapidly changing world where flexibility, new or different ideas and solutions are critical.
- Creativity is key to problem solving, developing new ideas and new ways of thinking.
- Celebrates each child's unique way of being, doing and thinking.
- Creative expression can help children express their emotions.









Developmental Progression of Creativity



Uses a variety of ways to interact with other people. Modifies expressions, actions, or behaviors based on responses of others.



Finds new things to do with familiar, everyday objects, such as using a cooking pot for a hat or a spoon as a drumstick.



Combines objects or materials in new and unexpected ways. Shows delight in creating something new.

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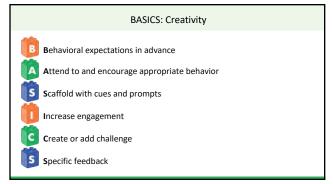


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"We're going to have snack in about 5 minutes. I know it can be hard to wait, I need to cut up the fruit and clean the table, then we can sit down to eat." "We're going to try something new today; there is clay in the sensory table! It's okay if you are unsure about playing with it, sometimes trying something new can be overwhelming." "If you start to feel frustrated, you can try taking a deep breath or ask a teacher for help."

Attend to and Encourage Appropriate Behavior



Respond to children's creative problem solving, thinking and expression with acceptance

"You are trying so many different ways to get the cheerios to your mouth!" $% \begin{center} \b$

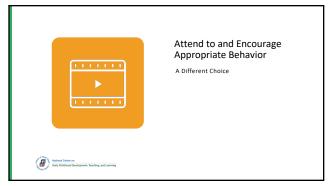
"Look at what you created!"

Respond to a child's creative process with descriptive encouragement

"I noticed you painting at the table. You were using the teal paint. First you started smooshing the paint on the paper then you started covering your hands and wrists with paint!"

Remember to smile and focus on the process and effort!

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Scaffold with Cues and Prompts



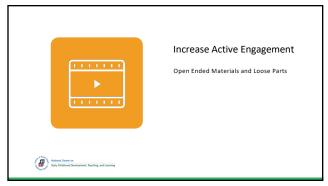
Ask opened ended questions to support deeper thinking.

"What do you think is going to happen next?" $\,$

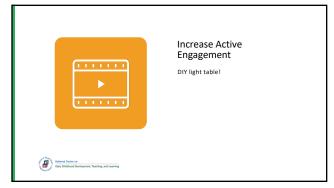
Model creative thinking, problem solving and expression out loud

"I wonder how we can make the playdough dark green. Let's see what happens when we add a few drops of food coloring. Look it's turning light green. Hmm, let's try and add some more."











Remember, focus on the process instead of the product! "I saw you wait for a turn at the ease!! Waiting can be hard, and you did it! "You are making so many different sounds! It sounds like you're creating a song! Let's see if I can make those sounds too." "Woah! You are hopping around and around. That makes me think about the book we read the other day, Come Along Daisy, when Daisy was jumping on the lily pads!"

