



Creativity ELOF Goals for Preschoolers

Goal P-ATL 12. Child expresses creativity in thinking and communication.

Goal P-ATL 13. Child uses **imagination** in play and **interactions** with others.



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Creativity: Focus for Today

Goal P-ATL 12. Child expresses creativity in thinking and communication.

Goal P-ATL 13. Child uses <mark>imagination</mark> in play and interactions with others.



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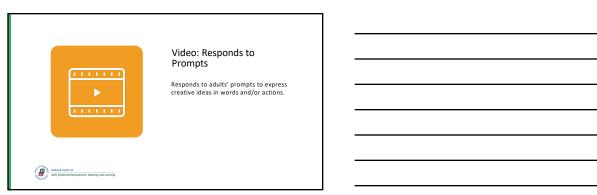
Why is creativity important?

- 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





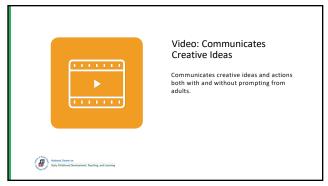


Communicates creative ideas and actions both with and without prompting from adults.



Approaches tasks and play with creative problem solving. Asks questions that show new ways of thinking. Uses multiple ways to communicate thoughts, feelings, or ideas.

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Developmental Progression of Creativity



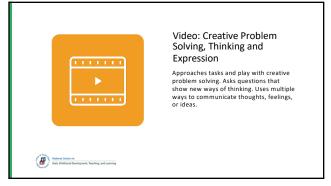
Responds to adults' prompts to express creative ideas in words and/or actions.

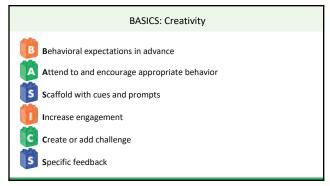


and actions both with and without prompting from adults.



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"When we go to centers, a center you want to play at might be full. If that happens, think about a second center you would like to play at." "It can be scary trying something new, if you feel nervous about it, remember you can ask for help." "If you start to feel frustrated, you can try using the calm down corner before trying the task again."



Respond to children's creative problem solving, thinking and expression with acceptance "You are trying so many different ways to get that ball up the ramp!" "Look at what you created!" Respond to a child's creative process with descriptive encouragement "I noticed you constructing with the clay, pinecones and sticks. You rolled the clay, patted it and squished it. I saw you try to stand the stick up in the clay a few times and it would fall over. Then you pressed the pinecone in the clay." Remember to smile and focus on the process and effort!



Scaffold with Cues and Prompts



Ask opened ended questions to support deeper thinking.

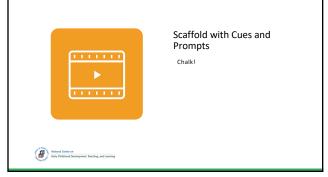
"Look at all these materials! You have been doing a lot of painting! Can you tell me more about your plan? What are you going to do with the bubble wrap?"

"What will you do if your idea doesn't work?"

Model creative thinking, problem solving and expression out loud

"Hmm, I wonder what will happen if we move this block here? It looks like that didn't keep the tower up either. Oh, I have an idea! Let's try this block instead."

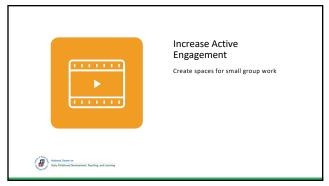
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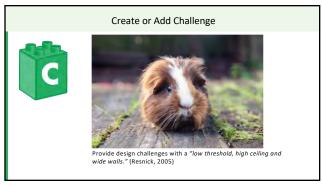
Scaffold with Cues and Prompts Ask children to revisit an idea, creation or play they show interest in











Create or Add Challenge with a Design Challenge Uses children's books to introduce a design challenge. Children use a variety of openended materials to solve a problem the characters are having in the book or try to replicate a building. Begins in a familiar place for children with the story characters. Invites children to think deeply about a problem.

Create or Add Challenge with a Tinkering Station



- Create a space for open-ended creativity
- Art center, loose parts station, recycle center or tinkering station
- Small group workspace

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Specific Feedback



- "I saw you notice that the tinkering center was full and went to the science center instead. That is a great strategy!"
- "I heard you playing the drums and singing. Tell me a story about the song you were playing? I wonder what other instruments you can add to your song?"

"You tried so many ways to figure out the scissors. Can I help you? I wonder if you tried putting your fingers here. What do you think?"

When children approach with a question, try asking them questions to support deeper thinking, problem solving and new ideas

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BASICS: Creativity



Behavioral expectations in advance



Attend to and encourage appropriate behavior



Scaffold with cues and prompts



Increase engagement



Create or add challenge



Specific feedback











- Three-to-five-year-old children categorize people by race.
- Express bias based on race.
- Use racial categories to "identify themselves and others, to include or exclude children from activities, and to negotiate power in their own social/play networks" (Winkler, 2009).
- Five- to six-year-old children show the same level of implicit bias as adults

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- - Silence reinforces racism Promote positive racial identity
 - Acknowledge hurtful and unfair behavior
 - Talk about how to be a good friend
 - Ask questions



