



NURTURING CREATIVITY & IMAGINATION

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.”
—Albert Einstein



Benefits of encouraging imagination:

- Develop social skills
- Build self confidence
- Boost intellectual growth
- Practice language skills
- Work out fears



Frenzy Drama





2. PROVIDE SAFE SUPPLIES

- Children love new ways of using things
- Clothes & hats that are easy to get on & off make great dressing up items
- Musical instruments (a pan & wooden spoon is fine!)
- Why not try play dough or non-toxic paint?

3. LET YOUR CHILD MAKE CHOICES

- Simple things like "do you want to drink from the green or blue cup?" or "do you want to wear stripey or spotty leggings?" Starting to gain control of their life choices will be exhilarating for them

1. ENCOURAGE ACTIVE PURSUITS

- Spend time outdoors - look at the sky, play in mud, collect sticks
- Read or walk
- Engage in conversation as much as possible
- Ask open ended questions to prompt them to share their thoughts and ideas
- Tell stories and let them make up the ending



"Play is the work of the child." — Maria Montessori



5. MAKE NOISE

- Singing together will make your child feel uninhibited
- Singing together boosts memory, word recognition and familiarity
- Use your voice in different ways e.g. animal noises - explore unusual animal noises too such as buffalo or a sloth

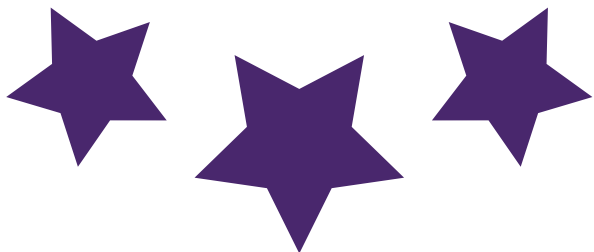
6. INSPIRE BIG THOUGHTS

- Encourage curiosity
- Before activities, ask your child what they think it will feel like/how it will change etc
- Use open ended questions to help build anticipation

4. BE CHOOSY ABOUT TOYS

- Open ended toys will allow children to decide how to use them
- Construction blocks, puppets, dolls, animal figures and dress up boxes are all great choices

“Play is the highest form of research.” — Albert Einstein





7. DON'T FORCE IT

- Never insist they engage in a project or activity if they are not interested
- The creative process should be a pleasure to enjoy not a chore to be endured

“Time spent playing with children is never wasted.” — Dawn Lantero



8. READING

- Reading captures imagination
- It develops social and verbal skills
- Reading enhances understanding and empathy
- Storytelling is the cornerstone to imaginative development

9. VERBAL ACTIVITIES

- Verbal activities help to inspire and nurture creative minds and build vocabulary
- Rhymes, riddles, silly sounds, phonics and I Spy are all great verbal activities to nurture and develop imagination





THE IMPORTANCE OF DRAMA & ROLE PLAY

- Children take on and explore different roles
- Develop social and verbal skills
- Encourages expressive language development
- Self regulate emotions and actions
- Supports math and literacy
- Teaches conflict resolution
- Relieves emotional tension
- Empowering to children
- Increases creativity and imagination
- Builds confidence
- Helps concentration
- Assists physical development
- Nurtures friendships
- Helps understand the world around them
- Develops emotional intelligence

10 . IMAGINATIVE PLAY / DRAMA

- Invent scenarios
- Let your child lead the situation
- Join in by taking on a role yourself
- Scenario examples: farm, zoo, house, space ship

“Imagination decides everything.”
— Blaise Pascal

