

## Intentional Teaching During Free Play



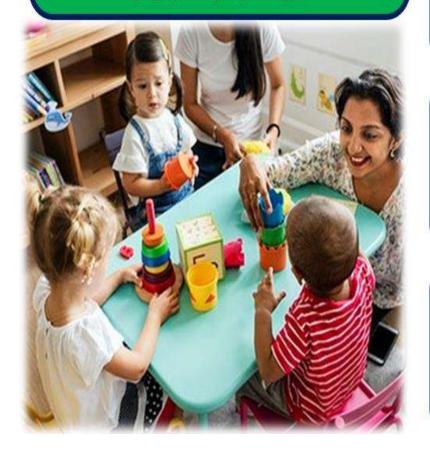
As children are playing, teachers can teach as they move about the room interacting with individuals and small groups of children. By starting conversations, adding new information, and asking open ended questions about the play, teachers can easily recognize children's skill and understanding and then extend it.







## What does intentional teaching sound like?



Ask open ended questions.

- How did you make that snake using your playdough?
- · Wow! How did you make that tall tower?
- Why do you think the car sank to the bottom of the water?
- How does the glue feel on your hand?

Ask follow up questions when a child talks about their play.

- · What do you want to add next to your Lego creation?
- · Why do you think it feels bumpy?
- · How did you decide to make that?
- What do you like about dinosaurs like the one we just read about?

Add new information a child might be interested in.

That is a kangaroo. They use their feet to hop to get from place to place.

When you mix red and white paint, you can make pink. Would you like to try it?

Stickers have glue that isn't wet on the back so they will stick to the paper. Feel it sticking to your hand?

Share your favorites and ask about the child's likes and dislikes.

- I see you drew a cat. My favorite animal is a cat because they are soft to pet. What's your favorite animal? Why?
- I like to read Clifford books because he's a fun dog.
   What is your favorite thing to read about? Why?