

# WHY CREATIVE PLAY?

CREATIVE PLAY, DONE ALONE OR IN A GROUP, IS ONE OF THE BEST FORMS OF EDUCATION A CHILD CAN ENGAGE IN. CREATIVE PLAY, OR FREE PLAY, IMPACTS:

# 1

## SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Awareness of social norms, in addition to the creation and maintenance of relationships occur naturally during creative play.

## BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

- Through inquiry, explanation, and trial an error, children learn about, and make sense of the world around them.

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## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing and Playing naturally allow children to hear and practice new words in the context of their environment and culture.

## EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

- Building memory and mental flexibility. These help with tasks like following directions, focusing, prioritizing, organizing, and understanding time.

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## PROBLEM SOLVING

- Skills such as flexible thinking, adapting, and resourcefulness are key problem solving skills learned through play. Managing emotions and impulses, adjusting to different approaches, and including new perspectives can all come through play.

## INNOVATION

- Creative play, or free play, is often self motivated and not guided by adults. During creative play, children imagine possibilities and build self confidence as they try, and try again. They create and solve challenges while seeing themselves as capable.

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## MOTOR SKILLS

- Through small activities (painting, building, etc.) children explore and strengthen their fine motor (fingers, wrists, ankles, etc.).
- Rolling a ball, tag, peek-a-boo, or even hide-and-go-seek, grow the large muscles (legs, arms, waist, etc.). Indoor and outdoor play are key to learning the world around them.

## SELF AWARENESS

- Creative play allows children to learn more about themselves (their skills, strengths, how they think, their contribution to their world, etc.). Through play children can build the confidence needed to further their learning.

# 8

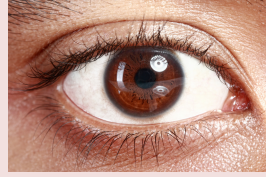
# FAMILY PROMPTS DURING CREATIVE PLAY

ELEVATE YOUR CREATIVE PLAY EXPERIENCE WITH CONVERSATION STARTERS.

ASK YOUR CHILD:

1

WHAT DO YOU SEE?



TELL ME ABOUT...



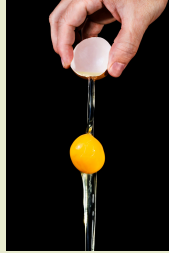
2

3

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT...



WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF...



5

I WONDER...



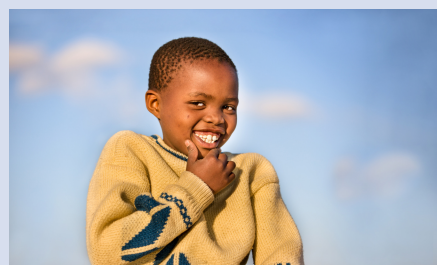
WHAT COULD WE CHANGE...



6

7

WHAT DOES IT REMIND YOU OF?



ADD YOUR OWN PROMPTS!

