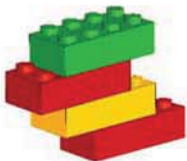


Block Play



Paul spent the morning at block area. He took some blocks from the shelf and put them onto the table. "I'm making a tower" he said. He took a block and stood it up on the table. Then he slowly added more blocks on top of it. "Just like a castle" he said. At the top of the tower he put a cone shaped block. "All finished - my tower for a king" he said. Paul pushed the blocks and they all came tumbling down. "Got to start again" he said. Once again, Paul chose a few blocks and stacked them on top of each other. "Now I made a lighthouse for the boats" Paul explained.

Benefits of Block Play



- Forces children to predict cause and affect relationships
- Involves solving problems related to construction
- Leads children to make use of physical principles
- Involves children in making a sequence.
- Involves classifying and sorting objects by size, shape and function
- Leads children to utilize emergent reading and writing skills



Linking To The Framework



- Children Have a Strong Sense of Identity
- Children are Connected and Contribute to their World
- Children Have a Strong Sense of Well Being
- Children are Confident and Involved Learners
- Children are Effective Communicators



Principles

- Secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships
- Partnerships
- High Expectations and equity
- Respect for diversity
- Ongoing learning and reflective practices

Practices

- Holistic approaches
- Responsiveness to children
- Learning through play
- Intentional teaching
- Learning environments
- Cultural competence
- Continuity of learning and transition
- Assessment for learning