

Baby TALK Preschool Activity

COGNITIVE

Preschool Peek-A-Boo

- Preparation
- Assessment
- Affiliation
- Observation
- Developmental Behaviors
- System of Support
- Baby Talk System of Care
- Reflection – On – Action
- Documentation

Purpose

Your child's attention span and length of engagement in preferred activities develops over time. Offering your child play opportunities based on her interests, interacting through playful games, and giving her choices in her activities are all great methods to increase engagement and facilitate learning in a non-threatening, play-based way.

Materials

- Three identical cups (unable to see through)
- Any object that can fit inside the cup such as a cotton ball, small toy, or sock

Let's wonder together

What does your child spend time doing?

How long might your child spend doing something she enjoys?

How long might your child spend doing something less enjoyable?

How do you know when your child has lost interest in an activity?

Why might your child lose interest in finishing something she has started?

Activity

Place three cups upside-down on a smooth surface.

Put a small object under one of the cups. Make sure the child sees which cup the object was placed under.

Ask the child to watch carefully to remember which cup is covering the object.

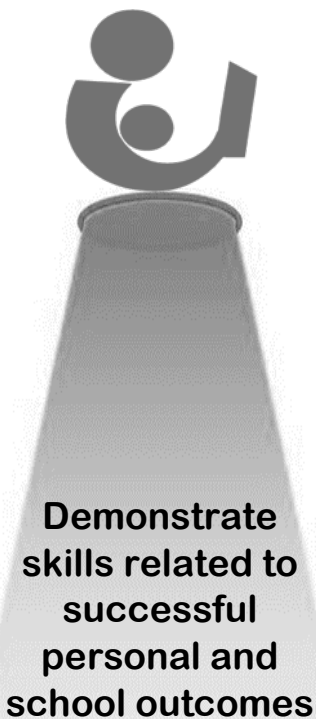
Slowly move the cups around in different positions.

Ask the child which cup the object is under and look to see if the child was correct.

Complete this activity several times, then allow the child to move the cups while you watch and choose which cup the object is under.

EXTENSION FOR OLDER PRESCHOOLER:

Move the cups faster as the child becomes better able to stay focused.



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What do you think about this?

- How well was your child able to stay focused during this activity?
- Why do you think your child stayed interested as long as she did?
- How did your child respond to being the leader of the activity when you switched roles?
- What might you do to help your child stay engaged in any activity for a little longer once the child begins to lose interest?

Application for Social Emotional Development

Healthy relationships provide your child with a sense of security in which she feels comfortable trying new things. As you support your child's attempts at new experiences, whether the child succeeds at first or not, your child should know that you are pleased with her because she did her best. When your child becomes concerned that her loved one will only be pleased when she is successful in her attempts, your child is less likely to try something new because it will feel too risky. Celebrate your child's attempts regardless of how successful those attempts were. By encouraging your child this way, you are likely to begin seeing her efforts increase because there is a decrease in the fear of being unsuccessful.

ILLINOIS EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARD(S):

- Primary** (30.C) Demonstrate skills related to successful personal and school outcomes.
Secondary (31.A) Develop positive relationships with peers and adults.