

Baby TALK Preschool Activity

COGNITIVE

Matching Lids to the Correct Jars

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

Purpose

Problem solving is an emerging skill that can be fostered in your child. Experimenting with scientific and mathematical concepts provides opportunities for problem solving development. Problem solving, though often seen as a scientific concept, is a highly impactful skill that supports growth in all areas of development.

Materials

- Various empty jars or containers and their lids (e.g., jelly jar, sippy cup, water bottle, etc.)

Let's wonder together

What does your child do when he tries to do something that is difficult?
When are some times that your child has become frustrated?
How do you support your child when he becomes frustrated?

Activity

Provide your child with empty jars or containers and their associated lids.

Encourage him to put the lids on the jars.

Allow your child opportunities for trial and error. If your child begins getting frustrated, offer some prompting questions. "How can we figure out which lid belongs on that jar?" "Which lid do you think would fit on this jar?" "Will this jar need a big lid or a small lid?"

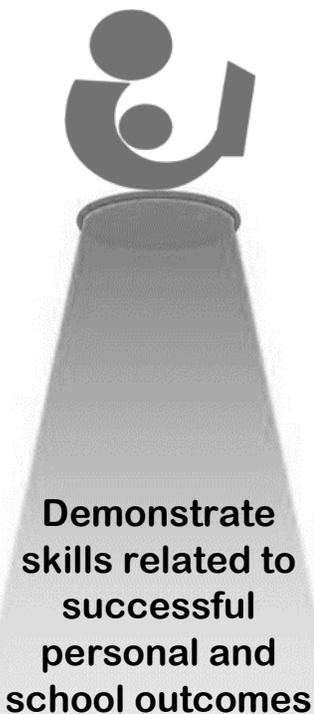
If he becomes increasingly frustrated, limit the possible options the child must choose from. "Look at these two lids. Which one do you think would fit on that jar?"

EXTENSION FOR OLDER PRESCHOOLER:

Increase the number of jars and lids.

Provide more lids as options than there are jars.

After the lids are all on, have your child arrange the jars from smallest to largest.



Baby TALK Preschool Activity

COGNITIVE

What do you think about this?

- What strategies did your child use to problem solve?
- Do you think you should allow your child to struggle with a task for a little while or help them right away? Why do you think that?
- How did you feel when your child was getting frustrated?
- How were you able to support your child when he or she became frustrated?
- How does your child see you respond to frustration? How does that affect your child's response?

Application for Social Emotional Development

Experiences with problem solving can sometimes lead to feelings of frustration in your preschooler. Supporting him through this associated frustration allows them to increase their unique level of persistence in overcoming obstacles. Acknowledge, name, and validate your child's feelings. Additionally, encourage and support your child through their emotions in order to reinforce their effort and improve their resilience in overcoming obstacles.

ILLINOIS EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARD(S):

- Primary** (30.C) Demonstrate skills related to successful personal and school outcomes.
- Secondary** (11.A) Develop beginning skills in the use of science and engineering practices, such as observing, asking questions, solving problems, and drawing conclusions.