



Infant: Facilitated Exploration

Title: Infant Focused Play

In this classroom, the teacher initiates and joins in play with the infants, giving them freedom to explore toys and following their attention and interests.

Involvement

- The teacher initiates an interaction with an infant by saying, “Would you like to twirl these? Watch these,” as she shows them how to turn the wheels.
- The teacher joins in play by saying, “Look. Look. Do you know if you turn one wheel that they all turn? Look. Look. They’re all turning simultaneously.”

Infant Focused

- The teacher watches the infants to see which toys and activities they are interested in.
- When Jackson expresses interest in the toy, the teacher says, “Let’s put it right here, so we can turn it together. Look, Jackson. Let’s put it right here so we can turn it together.”
- Paris takes a bucket of toys off the shelf, and the teacher follows her lead. She says, “Would you like to put some jacks together, Paris? Uh oh, they all spilled out.”

Expansion of Infants’ Experience

- The teacher helps the infants while they are playing by moving the toy off the shelf onto the floor.
- The teacher encourages Jackson using varied intonation. She says, “Look, you have the orange one and the purple one. How about that!”

The teacher spends most of her time engaged in play with the infants by initiating and joining in their play. She is aware of their interests and follows their lead while playing on the rug.