

Activity Session

Asking Questions

Read each of the scenarios and write down a “what” question you could ask the child to replace the “why” question asked in the scenario.

Scenario 1:

You've been discussing the math concept of patterns with the children. Justin is making a bead necklace in the art area. He has strung the beads in a red, blue, yellow pattern. After observing him for a while you ask him, “Why did you choose those colors?”

Scenario 2:

Ava has made a rain gauge in the science area. As you prepare to go outside she asks you if she can put it on the playground to measure the rain. You tell Ava “Of course” and ask if she needs any help getting it outside. She tells you “No thank you” and spends quite a bit of time looking for the right place to put the gauge. She decides to put it next to the sand box. When you return inside you ask Ava “Why did you put the rain gauge there?”

Scenario 3:

Tyrone is at the water table using a funnel to put sand into a clean dishwashing detergent bottle. The sand gets stuck in the neck of the funnel. Tyrone gets a pencil from the writing corner and uses it to push the sand through the funnel and flowing into the bottle. You approach Tyrone and ask him, “Why do you have that pencil in the water table?”

Scenario 4:

Gabriella is building in the block area. She looks over her choices. There blocks made of wood, foam and cardboard. She grabs the foam blocks and begins building a bridge. You ask, “Why did you choose that type of block?”
