NEW CANADIANS' CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE INC.
"Home to the World"

VIRTUAL CHILDCARE PARENT SUPPORT SERVICES

VOLUME #118

I SEE, I FEEL, I WONDER

HELLO PARENTS,

The see-think-wonder activities use observation as a springboard for thinking more deeply. It requires children to take notice and observe an image or object before attempting to interpret it. Using wonder as the final step ensures time for children to use their observational skills to gather new information, think about it, and synthesise it before taking it further into new areas to explore. In this newsletter, we provide activities that will encourage your child to observe and make their own predictions.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 -18 MONTHS)

I WONDER WHAT I CAN DO…

MATERIALS:

- Applesauce/yogurt
- Plastic spoons
- Plate

DIRECTIONS:

- Let your child explore the applesauce by spreading, tasting, and smelling it.
- Add a spoon and observe your child.
- Let your child decide which way they want to feed themselves (using hands or spoon).
- Encourage your child's explorations by making comments and wondering together.

Click here to listen to "Making Baby Eat Food" song.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

MY MAGIC SPONGE

MATERIALS:

- Bucket
- Water
- Soap
- Sponges
- Plastic toys or riding toys

DIRECTIONS:

- Gather all the materials and invite your child for a fun outside activity.
- Let your child fill the bucket with water and add soap.
- Have your child grab the sponge. Ask them questions such as: "What does the sponge feel like?", "How does the sponge feel when you dip it in the water?", "I wonder what will happen when we squeeze the sponge?" etc.
- Let your child wash the toys, explore and wonder.

Click here to listen to Sesame Street "I Wonder".

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

MYSTERY OBJECTS

MATERIALS:

- Cardboard box
- Markers
- Different objects: a flower bulb, an onion, garlic, etc.

DIRECTIONS:

- Place the objects in the box and ask your child "What do you think is in the box?"
- After your child guesses, open the box and reveal what is inside.
- Pass the objects to your child and let them investigate them.
- Ask questions such as: "What do you see?", "What do you think we can do with it?", "I wonder what is going to happen if we put the bulb in a pot and add water?" etc.
- Encourage them to use their imagination by making creative suggestions.

Click here to read "The Giant Turnip" folktale story.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

HOW LONG WILL IT STAY?

MATERIALS:

- Ice cubes
- Paper
- Plastic wrap
- Aluminum foil
- Fabric
- Small jar

DIRECTIONS:

- Encourage your child to wrap one ice cube with aluminum foil, one with paper, one with fabric, etc.
- Ask your child questions such as:
  - What do you feel when you touch the ice cubes?
  - What is going to happen if you keep the ice cubes in the sun?
  - How can you keep the ice cubes longer?
  - I wonder how much longer they will last if we wrap them?
- After two hours, let your child unwrap the ice cubes. See, feel and wonder together. Ask them: "Are the ice cubes the same size?", "Which one is bigger?" "Which one is smaller?", "Which material keeps the ice cube longer?" etc.
- Repeat this activity using different materials to wrap the ice.

Click here to learn "Why Does Ice Melt?".

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

MAKE A BIRDS' NEST STEAM PROJECT

MATERIALS:

- Paper plate
- Scissors
- String or yarn
- Natural materials such as: twigs, leaves, grass, moss, etc.

DIRECTIONS:

- Go outside to see if you can find any birds' nests nearby. If you find one, observe it carefully from a distance. Do not get too close and disturb the nesting birds! Can you tell what materials the nests are made of?
- Before you build the nest, ask yourself these questions:
  - How strong can you make a bird's nest?
  - Will your bird's nest stay together in windy weather? You can test it with a hairdryer.
  - How deep does your nest need to be to keep the eggs safe?
  - Would your bird's nest be comfortable?
  - What happens if it rains?
  - Will water collect inside or drain away? You can test it with a watering can.
  - If it falls apart, what can you change to make it sturdier?
- You might find that building a bird's nest can be surprisingly difficult! Now, the next time you see a bird's nest, maybe you will be a little more impressed with these natural feats of engineering!

Click here to watch how a weaver bird builds a nest in a single day.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage your child to think carefully about why something looks the way it is, make predictions, careful observations, and thoughtful interpretations.
- Have a conversation with your child and ask questions such as: What do you see? What do you ***think*** about it? What are your ***thoughts***? What do you ***wonder*** about?
- Give your child the chance to observe and make predictions.