

What Will You Do Now?

Primary Objectives

10a. Engages in conversations

Why It's Important

Children love to talk about things that are interesting to them. Your child makes sense out of his world by actively interacting with people and materials and by planning and reflecting upon his experiences.

Materials

Paintbrush; paper; smock; easel (optional); paint; tape recorder and tapes

What You Do

1. This activity works well with multiple children. Think of a few topics of conversation that are familiar and interesting to your child. When your child is playing with friends or other children in your family, set up a tape recorder to record the children's conversations.
2. Encourage your child to ask another child about his or her daily activities, favorite things to do, and plans for the coming weekend.
3. Guide the question-and-answer session as needed to stay on topic and to keep the children engaged. *Do you want to know what Jordan is going to do this weekend? Jordan, what plans do you have?*
4. Encourage longer exchanges if they are age-appropriate for your child. After your child is finished asking his questions, have the children switch roles so that your child will provide the answers.
5. You can make this activity more challenging by playing back the recording of the interview and stopping the tape after each question so that your child and the other child can try to recall the answers.
6. This activity can be further extended by inviting your child to paint a picture representing the topics discussed in his interview.