

Scarf Play

Primary Objectives

11d. Shows curiosity and motivation

Why It's Important

When you provide your child with a variety of objects, you encourage him to explore creatively. When you describe your child's explorations, you encourage him to associate body movements with words.

Materials

Container; collection of scarves

What You Do

1. Find a large, low-traffic space where you and your child can sit or move comfortably. Put the scarves in a container, and put the container on the floor within his reach.
2. Invite your child to explore the scarves. *Let's see what is in this basket.*
3. Engage in your child's play by joining him in familiar games, such as peek-a-boo or "Where Is Thumbkin?" (substituting your child's name in the song).
4. Show him how to hide behind the scarf as you sing. Gently remove the scarf to teach him the game until he participates on his own.
5. Introduce new words to your child, and repeat them often. *This scarf is soft. Feel it. It is very soft. Here is another scarf. Does it feel soft to you? I think it is soft.*
6. You can extend this activity by singing more songs or hiding objects under the scarves for your child to find.
7. Continue for as long as your child remains interested. Be sure to look for cues telling you that he is ready for something different. These may include looking away, crying, or attempting to shift position.