

Appropriate for :
Infants, Young Toddlers and Older Toddlers.



Homemade Books

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Small photo albums
- Photographs or pictures from magazines, calendars, etc.
- Transparent tape

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Insert pictures into album pages. Tape the tops of pages shut so children can't remove the pictures.
- Include pictures to represent diverse people (different ages, ethnicity, culture, abilities) in each book. Also include animal and nature pictures, as well as pictures of familiar objects and routines.
- Divide pages if the photo album has many and use them to make a second book.
- Use permanent markers to add words to the pages.

What the adult can do to support learning and development in these domains:

- Sit on the floor in a quiet area and share books with one or more children in a warm interactive way. Follow their lead. Let them turn pages or explore in their own way.
- Use a variety of words to describe the pictures or make up a silly story or song about them.
- Encourage communication by using hand gestures or sign language appropriate for infants and toddlers along with words as you talk about the pictures.
- Respond to each child's sounds, gestures or words to encourage back and forth conversation.

Examples of language that can be used between caregiver and child:

- "Oh, do you see the picture of the kitty? What does the kitty say? Meow, meow. Can you say meow?" (Make sign for cat as you talk about it; pretending to stroke whiskers with thumb and forefinger at corner of mouth while others fingers are held up in air).
- "That's a picture of a baby. See his nose? Where is your nose? Yes, there is your nose. Can you say 'nose'? Yes, nose."

This activity highlights support for the following *NCFELD* domain :

Cognitive Development	Approaches to Play & Learning	Language Development & Communication	Emotional and Social Development	Health & Physical Development
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