

Creating Capable, Confident, Competent Children (PreK)

(Ready for School; Ready for Life)

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It's Early CHILDhood - FUN is part of the curriculum

Think ~ Not teaching the skill

Putting the tools in place to learn the skill

PROCESS

PRODUCT

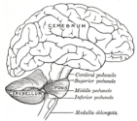


So, if you can't teach that day, don't criticize. You
- who you give them - is more important!

Having fun makes it easier to learn!

Helps the brain understand the rhythm of language!

Dance with your children!



BRAIN FACT

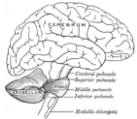
People who dance once a week decrease their chance of Alzheimer's and dementia by 79%. (Verghese, 2003). Playing a musical instrument decreases it by 69%. (Churchill, 2002).

Dancing Disco Dogs (Singing in a Different Key)

- *Children need to develop their motor skills.
- *Social Interaction and Proper Touch
- *Patterns

How Can I Move There? (Singing in a Different Key)

- *Explore different ways to move - forward, backward, upwards, around
- *Associate movement with an action or animal for a mental picture
- *Exposure to Latin music



BRAIN FACT

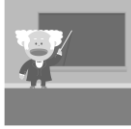
Afro Cuban / Salsa beats can benefit the brain by about 20% more than Mozart! (Parsons, 2006).

I Pledge Allegiance (A Musical MARathon) USE any March song - John Phillip Sousa - Disney

- *Give out musical instruments

I Can! (Keep Safety RooTeen)

- *Teach belief in oneself. That is an important life skill!
- *Point out what they can do. Send to Kindergarten with a list of what they can do
- *March while keeping the steady beat with your instrument



It becomes boring and ineffective when the same teaching pattern extends for a long period of time. Teachers need to switch things up to keep everyone involved. Different children learn different ways, but all children need to move!

Green, Yellow, Red (Mr. Froggy's Friends' ABCs)

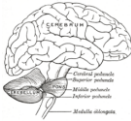
- *Learning about environment and how to follow community rules
- *Identify color with action
- *Use color on word with action - Reading Readiness

DISTurbing FaCts

Problem with childhood obesity and diabetes
30% of US schoolchildren are overweight
Only 6% of High Schools offer daily PE in the US
Many schools have cut recess out of elementary school schedules

In and Out the Window (unFROGettable)

- *Spatial temporal reasoning - the ability to understand your body in space and time
~~ must be in place to understand numbers.
- *Patterns and patterns with variation
- *Following directions; listening
- *Pre-planning; Working together



BRAIN FACT

Although test scores of use of music and no music may exhibit equal results, when memory of knowledge is compared later on, the students who learned through music and movement had better retention. (Altenmuller et al 1999).

Basic concept skills put in place through music and use of fingerplays (visual)

What Animal's Missing (Mr. Froggy's Friends' ABCs)

- *Deductive reasoning
- *Let them switch animal's order. Are they the same animals?

Five Hip-Hoppy Frogs (Mr. Froggy's Friends' ABCs)

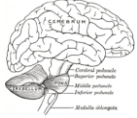
- *Croak for each frog. Awareness of number value
- *Croaking for 5 takes longer than croaking for 1. (5 larger than 1)

Tell Me The Word (Mr. Froggy's Friends' ABCs)

- *Basic things in the sky and their function
- *Engaging music - positive statements

Going on a Shape Hunt (Mr. Froggy's Friends' ABCs)

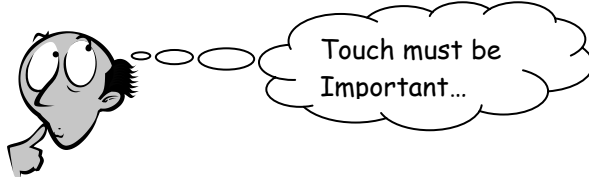
- *Instead of a bear hunt, look for shapes
~Can also do this with numbers, letters
- *Making it fun engages frontal lobes, producing endorphins and oxytocin
- *Use of music, movement and fun enhances ability to learn and retain



BRAIN FACT

Make that 3 Brain Facts ☺

Touch is 10 times more important than verbal or emotional contact. (Ackerman, 1990).
 Humans can survive without seeing, smelling, tasting or hearing but will die from touch deprivation. (Chapin, 1920). Children who lack play and touch have 20 - 50% smaller brains. (Perry, 1998).



You Gotta Laugh (Start the Music)

- *Vowel Sounds
- *Release of endorphins - importance of laughter

Nothing Else (Start the Music)

- *Scaffolding
- *Sequencing and adding onto the sequence
- *Body control

Connect children to the rituals and holidays around them. Fingerpuppets helpful.

Valentine (Start Each Day with a Song)

- *Spells "I love you"

5 Valentines (Songs at My Fingertips)

- *Creates thought on who to give valentine to
- *Reinforcing concept of 5

All styles of music are good.

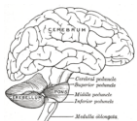
Each affect differently

Too much of anything not good

Lyrics can be harmful

Bunny Hop Jump

- *Patterns for math
- *Language
- *Can be successful without understanding words
- *Complete circle pattern



BRAIN FACT

During the first year of life, rhythm is the element of music that has the greatest effect. (Dr. John Ortiz). The human brain is innately responsive to highly rhythmic music and the only mammal that will tap its toe because of automatic tendency.

LIST OF RELATED CITATIONS
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