

Teachable Moments

These are some tips to continue the learning at home and encourage your child to improve their Problem Solving skills. For more information, please ask your Play 2 Learn teacher for more support!

REMEMBER, you are your child's FIRST and BEST teacher!

What YOU Can Do

Preschoolers learn best when they are given frequent opportunities to solve problems that are meaningful to them — those that arise in their day-to-day life.

1. **Give children opportunities to participate in hands-on activities.** Offer interesting items to explore, such as: magnets, household items, and large boxes.
2. **Invite children to use items in new and diverse ways.** Strings of colored beads can become reins for a racehorse, hair for a doll, links for measuring objects, or tools to press into clay to make designs.
3. **Encourage children's suggestions and solutions.** Promote brainstorming by asking open ended questions: "What can you do with a...?" "How many ways can you...?" Listen attentively to children's ideas.
4. **Allow children to test ideas and find their own solutions.** Offer assistance if children become frustrated, but do not solve their problems for them.
5. **Use literature.** Share books that show how characters solve problems, such as *King of the Playground* by Phyllis Naylor, *Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina, *Ish* by Peter Reynolds and *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons* by Eric Litwin.



Early Learning & School Readiness



GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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