

Doll Naps

Primary Objectives

14b. Engages in sociodramatic play

18b. Uses emergent reading skills

Why It's Important

Children begin to appreciate books and enjoy being read to at a very young age. The simple acts of holding a book, turning its pages, and imitating the act of reading during play will help your child learn many important skills related to reading.

Materials

Blanket; book; baby dolls; pillows

What You Do

1. Gather several dolls, "nap time" props, and books that your child enjoys. Observe your child as he explores the materials.
2. Encourage your child to prepare some of the dolls for a nap by tucking them in and reading them a bedtime story. Allow him to choose which book he would like to read.
3. Comment on your child's choice and ask questions about why he chose that particular book. *I see you have chosen to read Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Why did you choose that book? What is it about?*
4. Observe how he tucks in the dolls and gets them ready for nap time. Notice his efforts and acknowledge his actions. *You were very gentle with that doll when you tucked her in. You covered that baby up very well. He will be warm under that blanket.*
5. As your child begins to read the book, step back and observe his play. Watch to see whether he turns the pages, shows the pictures, and marks "the end" of the story. Listen to the words he uses to describe the story and the pictures.