

DRAMATIC PLAY TIPS

Science Edition

SET UP

Play helps children explore new things about their world and develop the social and emotional skills they will need as they get older. Something as simple as playing science lab will help your child build many skills, including self-regulation, empathy, and cooperation.

- Cover the kitchen table with something like a tablecloth or newspaper and set up a science lab for your child to play and explore with.
- Use plastic containers and cups to fill with small amounts of water, cotton balls, or colored pom poms. You can even use food coloring to color the water if you're feeling extra adventurous!
- Grab some kitchen utensils like measuring cups, tongs, or a turkey baster
- Encourage your child to conduct an experiment with the supplies you have provided.



READING

Check out books from the library about science and read them with your child. Find words in the books you checked out that they aren't familiar with and break them down by their individual syllables by clapping them out. For example, "experiment" would be ex-per-i-ment.



WRITING

Ask your child to write out and sketch the experiment that they are conducting. If they can't write yet, encourage them to draw it. You can then help by labeling the parts of their drawing.



TALKING

Learn with your child and talk to them about it! Talk about scientific concepts as they come up in every day life. "Oh I see the bread has grown mold, we can't eat it now! Sometimes food grows mold, let's learn about why and see how we can prevent it." Your child is likely to understand more scientific concepts than you would expect.

SINGING

The Robot Song

To the tune of "Wheels on the Bus"

The arms of the robot swing up and down,
Up and down, up and down,
The arms of the robot swing up and down,
All around the room.

The legs of the robot move back and forth...
The head of the robot turns side to side...
The buttons on the robot blink on and off...
The voice of the robot says beep, beep, beep...



PLAYING

Help your child dress up like a scientist with stuff around the house. Old swim goggles or safety glasses for eye protection. Grab some gloves and an apron if you have it. They can even use a jacket as their lab coat. Give them space to play with the limited supplies you have set out and you may be surprised at how immersed they become.