



Exploring Science Everyday With Your Child



As you and your child talk about and explore scientific processes, skills and content you'll be acting just like scientists.

Talk together

Talk about natural phenomena: the weather, animal behaviors, plants, clouds, etc.

Talk about how characters in books solve their problems

Wonder aloud and ask questions relating to your activities

Encourage your child to make estimations, predictions and hypotheses

Allow plenty of time to discuss the investigations you are doing

Talk together about the questions you have about your indoor and outdoor environments

Talk about the changes you notice in the weather, each other, the seasons, etc.

Look for patterns and sequences in everyday activities: "After we have breakfast, what happens next?"

Ask questions about different objects and experiences: "How is this different? How is this the same?"

Read together

Borrow or buy biographies of scientists and books about insects, trees, shadows and other scientific areas of interest

Make predictions about what will happen in stories

Read game or other instructions aloud with your child

Follow a recipe from a cookbook

Play a game based on a story, such as "Shadow Tag" when you read *Bear Shadow*

Make a science area in your home

Have hand lenses, a balance, measuring tools and other science equipment available

Provide things from nature for your child to investigate such as seedlings, shells, leaves or rocks

Make sure there are plenty of project materials for your child to use:

paper, markers, play dough, modeling clay, pipe cleaners

paints for experiment and mixing colors

recycled materials for inventing and building

Make and display charts and lists

Help your child make drawings, models and books about your investigations

Visit your local children's museum and science or environmental center