



Asking Open-End Questions



As we all know, learning for young children happens through social interaction. Asking open-ended questions helps children think about and understand the world around them. Good questions allow children to develop vocabulary and make sense of what they are doing. Learning how to ask open-ended questions takes lots of practice. Here are some examples:

Connecting questions

What does that remind you of?

What do you notice about this character that reminds you of someone you know?

Predicting questions

What do you think will happen now/next if...?

Evaluating questions

What do you like about this? Why?

What *don't* you like? Why?

Attention-focusing questions to call attention to significant details

What is it doing?

How does it feel?

Measuring and counting questions to generate more precise information

How many?

How much?

How heavy?

Comparison questions to foster analysis and classification

How are they alike?

How are they different?

Action questions to encourage exploration of properties and events

What if...?

Problem solving questions to support planning and trying solutions to problems

How could we...?

Reasoning questions to encourage reflection and to construct new ideas

What do you think?

Can you explain that?