

Schema Ideas

Scattering

Other children just seem to want to scatter everything around, e.g. tip ALL the bricks out onto the floor.

This child may:

- Empty out all the baskets
- Tip ALL the bricks out onto the floor
- Use arms or legs to scatter things i.e.-oats, pasta, rice
- Wipe all the toys/objects off the surfaces

If your child has a scattering schema offer them activities such as:

- Pasta, oats etc in flat trays or builders tray
- Large lego bricks to scatter
- Ball pools
- Bean bags

Trajectory

A child that has a trajectory schema is interested in things, and themselves moving in straight lines up and down or across.

It is a very common schema and one that young babies will often display, explaining why they love to drop things from their highchairs.

A child with a trajectory Schema may

- Always seem to be running around
- Likes throwing things
- Likes to play with running water
- Likes pushing things in a straight line

If your child has a trajectory schema you might like to provide

- Provide soft balls to throw and roll
- Blow bubbles to be caught
- Allow them to play on swings, slides and bikes
- Give opportunities to pour water

Connecting

A child with a connection schema is interested in joining things together.

This child may:

- Tie your chair legs (or even your legs) together!
- Love joining the carriages of trains together and taking them apart.
- Enjoy all sorts of construction toys
- Once they are drawing, enjoy joining dots or lines together.

If your child has a connection schema, provide toys and other items that can be used for joining together:

- Tow trucks and cars
- Train sets
- String and wool
- Construction blocks
- Masking tape and junk modeling items

Rotational

A child who has a rotation schema is interested in things that are circular or rotate

- This child may Love to play with the wheels on toys
- Like spinning around
- Enjoy playing with water wheels in sand or water
- Toys that spin
- Loves watching the washing machine

Provide a child with a rotation schema with toys such as

- Cars and toys with wheels
- Spinning tops and toys that spin
- Push along toys
- Windmills

Transporting

A child with a transporting schema moves everything from one place to another. This is a common schema in toddlers. If you have a transporter nothing will ever be in its place!

A child who transports may:-

- Put sand in a bucket and move it to another area
- Take things from one place to another in prams, trolleys and bags.
- Go back and forth bringing you items from around the room.

If your child has a transporting schema offer them items such as

- A collection of bags and boxes
- Pushchairs and trucks
- Pasta and other items to transport

Enveloping and containing

A child who has an envelopment schema is interested in enveloping itself and objects or a space. It is very closely related to containment.

A child with an envelopment schema may

- Like to wrap themselves in material
- Make parcels containing every day objects
- Cover their hands and body with paint
- Paint a picture and then cover it with a solid layer of paint

If your child has an envelopment schema they will like

- Blankets to wrap dolls and themselves in
- Dressing up clothes
- Paper and newspaper to make parcels
- Be allowed to paint themselves

A child who has a containment schema loves to put one thing inside another. This child may

- Like putting things in bags and pots
- Enjoy shape sorting toys
- Climb into boxes
- Love filling up buckets with sand
- Draw or paint pictures then draw circles or boxes around them.

If your child has a containment schema they will appreciate it if you provide

- Pots with things they can fill them with
- Containers to fill in the bath or sink

- Dry play such as pasta and pots to fill
- Boxes and tents to go in

Transformation

A child who has a transformation schema is interested in things (or themselves) changing or changing appearance.

This can show itself in interesting ways, some of which could be really inconvenient or even annoying, such as covering their hands with paint or their face with your makeup!

This child may:

- Love to mix different coloured paints together
- Demolish another child's careful building or even take things apart
- Show an interest in ice melting or jelly setting
- Loves dressing up clothes

If your child has transformation schema provide toys, other objects and activities such as:

- Baking cakes together
- Making home made ice lollies
- Building blocks to build up and knock down
- Lots of dressing up clothes
- Lots of play dough