

Intellectual Development

Language development is enhanced through:

- Verbally communicating and listening to others
- Dramatic play
- Listening to and telling stories
- Listening to music and singing songs
- Beginning to identify meaningful words – own name, friends' names, calendar words, job

chart, etc.

- Dictating, drawing, and writing stories, and creating books of the child's own making

Math skills are being formed while children play. These activities involve:

- Identifying shapes, sizes, patterns, and sequences
- Sorting and categorizing into sets
- Counting and comparison, one-to-one correspondence
- Measuring length and weight
- Using numbers (as symbols and to represent quantity)
- Graphing

Science concepts are developed by:

- Observing seasonal changes related to weather, plant life, animal behavior and activities

of people/families

- Sorting and categorizing items according to various properties
- Observing and/or collecting plants, animals, and insects in their environment
- Learning basic conservation of and respect for nature, as well as concept and practice of

recycling materials and goods

- Growing plants from seeds and bulbs, observing stages of growth and parts of plants
- Exploring animals through hatching chicken eggs, butterflies, tadpoles, and more
- Discovering how magnets work
- Observing changes in matter through experiments with heat and cold
- Cooking and eating healthy snacks

Social studies concepts are introduced by:

- Learning about similarities and differences in peers and their families
- Inviting family members to visit school and share items or stories pertaining to their history, traditions, or culture; teach words in other languages; or read a book to the class
- Exploring the community through field trips on the Washington University campus and surrounding neighborhood
- Learning about occupations through books and personal visits and discussions with people holding a variety of jobs
- Experiencing multi-cultural customs, having hands-on activities with cultural materials
- Learning how people with disabilities experience life, how they deal with difficulties, and learning to view and respect each person as an individual
- Role-playing about families, occupations, abilities, or traditions