

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT			
SUB-DOMAIN: LEARNING APPROACHES			
CURIOSITY, MOTIVATION, EXPLORATION, AND EXPERIMENTATION			
GOAL 1: CHILDREN SHOW CURIOSITY AND INTEREST IN LEARNING AND EXPERIMENTING.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
60 Months through Kindergarten	Begins to show logic in thinking about complex information, and about people, objects, and actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Talks about new events and occurrences. ▪ Asks questions about changes in their world. ▪ Uses same and different to explain phenomenon. ▪ Shows enthusiasm for field trips and other outings to new places. ▪ Looks for new information, with assistance, and wants to know more about personal interests. ▪ Uses available tools to explore (books, technology, and people). ▪ Uses multiple strategies to explore a new situation or object. ▪ Looks to others when trying to explain illogical outcomes. ▪ Uses vocabulary and gestures to indicate measurable attributes (e.g. "I need a big triangle, not the little one."). ▪ Uses a variety of groupings when classifying. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer a variety of resources for gathering information to build on child's interests (books, videos, field trips, technology). ▪ Provide child with opportunities to use resources to answer questions (if a child wonders about dinosaurs, find a dinosaur book at the library, search a child-appropriate website together). ▪ Use child's previous experiences and knowledge as a springboard to experimentation and exploration (e.g. "Remember when we made play dough and we put green coloring in it? What colors should we use this time? What would happen if we mix colors?"). ▪ Use personal family and local community experiences to support child's new learning (e.g. child uses sled to play outside in the snow; what does a child use to play in the ocean?"). ▪ Provide opportunities for children to observe and listen to adult and child-to-child conversations about why, who, what, where, and when. ▪ Offer dolls, costumes, pictures, puppet theatres, and open ended story boards to encourage child to create make-believe stories. ▪ Offer ample opportunity for dramatic play where the child is free to try out roles and activities. ▪ Offer props, time, and a variety of settings for experimenting with art and music.