

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT			
SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITION AND COGNITIVE PROCESSES			
IMITATION			
GOAL 10: CHILDREN IMITATE BEHAVIORS THAT THEY HAVE OBSERVED.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
60 Months through Kindergarten	Shows increasing skill in coordinating physical and cognitive abilities to realistically imitate and create events and situations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engages in pretend role play with peers and alone. ▪ Creates and uses objects to mimic adult roles, themes, and use of tools (e.g. wears helmet to ride a bike, just like mom does; makes a fence for the toy horse barn with a big gate, because dad couldn't get the horse trailer through this little one; or changes a physical stance for batting a ball with an eye toward the way a Seattle Mariners baseball player bats). ▪ Narrates play and roles, taking on multiple roles and themes in play. ▪ Plays with the intention to imitate roles and themes of adults, book characters, everyday people, dancers and singers, and movie or TV characters. ▪ Chooses and successfully play games or songs with imitation and simple rules ("Simon Says"). ▪ Practices physical skills and actions observed in favored settings and people (e.g. father/mother favorite ball player, musician, super-hero, or community helpers). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide experiences for concerts, art, sporting events, museums, parades, theatre, and community events. ▪ When children experience a performance or community event or situation, offer time for talking about that experience and provide props for that theme for play (e.g. the county fair is in town, so you offer some vegetables for playing judging booth, or a weather event occurs and you offer props for community helper play). ▪ Include resources, activities, and props for making music, art, and drama as you plan environments. ▪ Provide opportunities to see and imitate different kinds of work. ▪ Provide real and pretend activities involving work that adults do (cooking, cleaning, raking leaves).