

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITION AND COGNITIVE PROCESSES****REPRESENTATIONAL THOUGHT AND PLAY**

GOAL 16: CHILDREN REPRESENT EXPERIENCES AND THOUGHT THROUGH SYMBOLIC REPRESENTATION INCLUDING PLAY, MOVEMENT, ARTS, NUMERACY, AND LITERACY.

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<p>60 Months through Kindergarten</p>	<p>Use symbols to represent numbers, letters, and some words; and for expression in creative arts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Combines drawing and art expression with words. ▪ Uses art, music, and movement to create expressions of self and feelings that are beyond verbal expression. ▪ Responds empathetically to books and pictures that express emotions and social roles. ▪ Represents simple objects through drawings, movement, mime, and three-dimensional constructs. ▪ Uses physical objects to demonstrate symbolic vocabulary (using blocks or food at the table to demonstrate how much and more and less). ▪ Independently chooses new and different materials to represent original thoughts, ideas, and feelings. ▪ Expresses ideas using marks that are approximation of letters and numerals. ▪ Uses some recognizable letters and numerals to communicate ideas. ▪ Represents numeracy concepts such as addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, and sounds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage child in creating symbols to represent familiar objects (e.g. "What would a symbol for your bed look like?"). ▪ Provide opportunities for child to participate in culture specific representational activities (storytelling, oral history, dance, songs). ▪ Use written symbols liberally to show how words help us function in daily life (e.g. do a project on "signs;" have children make a sign to send messages to others about saving a structure or to tell others when the class is outside or on a field trip; have children make up gestures to represent the weather each day; or use a roll of adding machine tape to record a sequential numeral each day to show how many days we have been in school this year). ▪ Offer a writing center with the alphabet and numerals printed and taped to the table. ▪ In dramatic play centers, have a blank cookbook where children create and record "recipes." ▪ In block play, supply paper and writing tools where children can draw their plans, or draw their final construction. ▪ Offer measurement tools with "data sheets" where children can show the results of experiments. ▪ Post a "waiting list" in popular spots (such as computer stations or water table) for children to sign up for the next available spot.