

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT			
SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITION AND COGNITIVE PROCESSES			
REASONING AND LOGIC			
GOAL 8: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE AWARENESS OF CAUSE AND EFFECT RELATIONSHIPS.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
60 Months through Kindergarten	Intentionally structures explorations to test cause and effect with people and objects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understands and explains simple cause and effect situations (e.g. water poured into sand makes the sand wet and it clumps more easily, or pulling one block can make a block tower fall, or asking questions about gardening gets Grandpa's attention). ▪ Structures experiments to see how changes in one factor influence changes in the others (e.g. expands block play to include complexity in balance and incline; combines art media to see results). ▪ Predicts results. ▪ Repeats experiments to verify results. ▪ Explains how things might change given a change in circumstances (when it's cloudy, it might rain). ▪ Uses verbal and written communication to document why something happened. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide opportunities for child to engage in cause-effect activities (e.g. freeze water with objects in it; observe how long it takes to melt). ▪ Take cues from children about what they are wondering about, and then encourage them to create their own experiments. ▪ Provide child with a variety of materials to create cause and effect experiments (e.g. explore the steps required to make a pizza). ▪ Pose "what if?" questions to child, and teach the child to pose "what if" questions. ▪ Understand that problem solving about social cause and effect issues may exceed child's capacity to problem solve without adult support. ▪ Encourage child to discuss and document findings/results of experimentation and exploration. ▪ Provide materials and support for hypothesis making, prediction and estimation, trial and error, making conclusions, and documenting results.