

DOMAIN 1: APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT**SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITION AND COGNITIVE PROCESSES****REPRESENTATIONAL THOUGHT AND PLAY****GOAL 14: CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN EXPLORATORY PLAY.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
Birth through 8 Months	Gains stability and balance among senses and uses those senses to evoke relaxation and calmness that supports exploration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gathers information through the senses (e.g. mouthing, grasping, reaching). ▪ Explores with more than one sense at a time (e.g. uses sight, touch, taste, and hearing to examine and explore a toy). ▪ Gazes at stimulating objects in the environment. ▪ Initiates familiar play scheme (banging objects, grabbing spoon). ▪ Uses and repeats action to cause change in what they see, hear, and feel. ▪ Reacts to other babies or reflection in mirror. ▪ Responds to music, shiny objects, and textures. ▪ Communicates sensory preferences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consistently respond and create predictable routines so infant feels safe and secure to explore. ▪ Engage in playful interactions allowing baby to explore your face. ▪ Provide toys and experiences that appeal to all senses. ▪ Engage in reciprocal play such a Peek-a-Boo, hand clapping, stretching, and moving songs and games. ▪ Set up environment to stimulate movement and action in exploration (e.g. objects just beyond reach so child must roll, bat, or kick to cause noise or action). ▪ Describe what baby sees, hears, and does. ▪ Respond to child's cues as to likes and avoids (e.g. loud sounds, bright lights, pleasing sounds, comforting textures).