









Perceptual Development



- Children use their senses to gather and understand information and respond to the world around them.
- Perception helps infants and toddlers understand and direct their everyday experiences.
- Review the ELOF goals and progressions!



Perceptual Development

- Perceptual skills are at work during every waking moment
- Senses provide overlapping information
- Sensory input controls motor responses
- Vision, hearing, and developmental screenings are important
- Children with suspected delays/identified disabilities that impact sensory abilities need support





Effective Practices

- Encourage children to use their senses to acquire information.
- Draw children's attention to sensory experiences during everyday routines and experiences.
- Arrange the indoor and outdoor setting to encourage children to use perceptual information as they move their bodies and interact with others.
- Describe properties of objects.





Effective Practices



- Use the language(s) you know best when describing how children use their senses to explore their environment.
- Encourage parents to use the language(s) they know best, too.
- Talk with parents about toys and objects at home that would be safe and appropriate to mouth and how to keep the toys and objects clean.
- Talk with parents about "messy play."



Effective Practices



- Recognize sensory overload cues and adapt interactions and experiences as needed.
- Provide extra support for children with suspected delays or identified disabilities, including sensory processing issues.



Approaches to Learning

Consistent, responsive relationships help infants and toddlers:

- Manage feelings, emotions, actions, and behaviors
- Focus and persist
- Use initiative and curiosity to explore their environment





Ongoing Assessment



- Focused observation and intentional engagement
- Two-way communication
- Families are the best source of information



Links to Resources on ECLKC: MyPeers T4T ELOF2GO







