

Spinning to Resilience: Rotation Schema

So...what does a child's fascination with how the world goes 'round have to do with resilience? Like everything that a child is driven to do, the more opportunities they have to act on their developmental nudges, the easier it is for them to develop their bounce! Our role is to connect to and nurture their wonderful ideas!



Relationships

With Caring Adults: What is engaging children, and what actions do they repeat? By supporting their schema exploration, we aren't just helping them to learn...we are getting to know them better!

With Other Children:

*Ring Around the Rosie, Duck Duck Goose...*a round up of children's favorite games includes so many circle games! Rotation schemas = FUN!!! Kids also love sharing their schema discoveries with each other!

Initiative

Agency: Acting on their own unique ideas as they explore ALL the things that spin promotes agency!

Problem-solving: How DOES that lid twist off? How CAN I get the Lego car down the ramp?

Motivation to succeed: There is not much more motivating than figuring out how to roll down a hill! Or building gears that move one another!

Executive Functions

Cognitive Flexibility: Loose parts inspire wonder and "what if?" How many ways can a spool spin and roll, anyway???

Working Memory: What's the fastest way to roll this jeep down the ramp? Where do I start? How hard do I push? And how can I get the ramp the same angle each time?

Inhibitory Control: Yippee! We can roll down the hill!!! YIKES...what if it's scary? Balancing those conflicting emotions develops with practice..

Self-Regulation

Ever get frustrated trying to twist off a bottle lid? Rotation Schema give children lots of opportunities to feel frustrated, or puzzled, or even a little upset. AND plenty of practice regulating those emotions!

They also have to regulate their bodies: blow the pinwheel too hard and nothing happens!

