Play should be fun, engaging and challenging. By helping children take part in different types of play on their own, and with others, and by providing a well-resourced play environment inside and out, caregivers can greatly enrich the learning opportunities that play provides.

### LET THEM PLAY!

**Pretend Play - Writing Menus and Taking Orders...**

...develops creativity, imagination, literacy and math, social/emotional skills, and problem-solving abilities.

**Playing with Nesting or Stacking Toys and Large Blocks...**

...develops fine motor skills.

(Fine Motor—small movements that support skills such as self-care and pencil holding).

**Playing Dress-Up...**

...develops creativity, imagination, social/emotional skills, and problem-solving abilities.

**Playing with Puzzles and Building Toys...**

...develops coordination.

**Playing Any Type of Game...**

...develops language skills and teaches children how to get along with others.

**Music and Movement Activities...**

...develops fine and large motor skills.

(Fine Motor—small movements that support skills such as self-care and pencil holding. Large Motor—bigger movements that support muscle development).

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