



ECFE Learning Links—Winter 2017

Construction

Family

Relationships

Books: *Demolition* Sutton

Roadwork Sutton

Construction Sutton

Dramatic Play: Construction worker props

Fine Motor Activities: Construction Vehicle Number Matching Game

Construction Site Counting Game

Beginning Letter Sounds

Clothespin Number Matching

Construction Puzzles

Sensory Table: beans with construction vehicles

Hands On Table: Kinetic sand with construction vehicles

Art: Painting construction worker's tools

Painting with construction vehicles

Math & Science: Playdoh building with hammers and nails

Child Perspective:

I need your guidance and support to learn how to interact with members of my family.

Parent Learning:

Parents support their children's development when they:

- Recognize and nurture each family member as an individual with unique needs and strengths
- Foster positive sibling relationships.

Minnesota Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework, 2011

Miss Christina's Songs:

Construction

This is the way we hammer the nails.

Hammer the nails, hammer the nails.

This is the way we hammer the nails

So early in the morning.

(more verses: saw the wood, stack the bricks, stir the paint, paint the house.)



Where is Red Light?

Tune: *Where is Thumpkin?*

Where is red light? Where is red light?

Here I am. Here I am.

Tell us what you say, sir. Tell us what you say, sir.

I say stop! I say stop!

Where is yellow light? Where is yellow light?

Here I am. Here I am.

Tell us what you say, sir. Tell us what you say, sir.

I say wait. I say wait.

Where is green light? Where is green light?

Here I am. Here I am.

Tell us what you say, sir. Tell us what you say, sir.

I say go. I say go.

Red says stop, yellow says wait,

Green says go, green says go.

These are traffic signals, these are traffic signals,

That we know, that we know.

Found in The Mailbox Aug/Sept 1999

Tips to Help Each Child Feel Loved

Adapted from <http://www.parenting.com/article/how-to-help-each-child-feel-loved>



Practice 1-on-1

The best way to develop individual relationships with your children is to spend time alone with each one on a regular basis. Among other things, it helps cut down on your natural tendency to compare or typecast your kids. For example, your youngest is more likely to be viewed as "the baby" when the whole family is together than when he's just going out with you.

But you needn't plan a special outing to spend time alone with each child. When the opportunity arises -- say, when your toddler is napping -- you can play a game or do a puzzle with her older brother, talk to him about his day, or prepare a meal together. You can also invite him to work in the garden or join you when you run an errand while someone else watches the other kids.

Avoid Comparisons

It's inevitable: Once we've had a second child, we automatically begin searching for similarities and contrasts between the two. Harmless as they seem, comparisons almost always stir up feelings of inadequacy among kids; there's always one child who's being viewed more favorably than the other. Comparing children also conveys the message that your love and acceptance are conditional, especially when we ask questions such as "Why can't you be like your sister? She never talks back to me."

But many parents don't realize that even their compliments can pit kids against one another: "Wow, you cleaned your room! It looks much better than Marcia's now." Instead, try praising your child without referring to her siblings: "It's nice to see you playing so quietly"; "You must feel relieved to have all your homework done before your favorite TV show comes on."

Avoid Typecasting

Whether it's unconscious or not, many parents tend to label their children: "Our son Tim's the brainy one, while Mary's the artist"; "Harry's the easygoing one in this family." Even though your child may enjoy having a special identity within the family, typecasting limits the way he and others view him and stifles his ability to express all his emotions (how can Harry kick up a fuss when he's known as the easygoing one?) or try new experiences.

Although all of us have both positive and negative feelings about our children, occasionally a parent may project all her negative feelings onto one child, like the mother I knew who described one of her two boys as "her little angel" and the other as the "troublemaker." This good boy/bad boy distinction left the "naughty" child feeling utterly defeated and quickly created a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Contact Your ECFE Teachers! We love to hear from you.

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