



THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Activity #26 “Dressing Up Is Fun”

You will need: Container such as a plastic tub or crate
Clothes for “dressing up” that are easy to put on and take off.
Examples: adult shirt that buttons in front (short sleeves or sleeves shortened) scarves, hats, caps, mittens, slipper socks

Try this!

- Join your child in exploring the contents of the box. Talk with him about the clothing items and where they might be worn.
- Let your child try on whatever is in the box. He may put a shirt on backwards or upside down, but that is okay. He is learning to put on and take off clothes. He is also learning to make choices about what to wear.
- Remove items when your child seems to lose interest in them. Add new items for variety.
- Have a full-length mirror for your child to see himself as he dresses up. This helps your child become aware of what he looks like.

Playing “dressing up” with a friend!

- Invite another child over to join your child in playing “dressing up.”
 - Have two each of popular items such as hats and caps. Toddlers are probably not ready to share and take turns in their play. When you see your toddler share a toy with someone, make a comment such as, “*John, you’re learning how to share.*”
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Connect with your child’s caregiver!

- Let your child’s caregiver know how much your child enjoys playing “dressing up.”
- Offer to provide items for “dressing up” if there are none available in your child’s program.

Book

Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?
By Nancy Carlstrom,
illustrated by Bruce Degen.
New York: McMillan. 1986.

