



Are they **JUST** playing?

Play is a child's **WORK!**

Play is the **BUSINESS** of children.

Taking part in **ACTIVITIES** is play.

Play is one of the most important **TEACHERS** of children.

IT LOOKS LIKE PLAY, IT IS PLAY, BUT LEARNING IS HAPPENING!

AS PRESCHOOLERS PLAY:

- They develop large and small muscles.
- They improve muscular coordination.
- They begin to master body movements in terms of space.
- They learn to make choice and negotiate plans.
- They find ways to express joy, frustration, tension and fear.
- They have many experiences which enhance self-concept.
- They learn what things are real and what things are pretend.
- They discover memory which is needed to retain information and form concepts.
- They learn to be imaginative and creative.
- They grow in language understandings and abilities.
- They improve in "getting along" with others.
- They become teachers of the teacher. As adults observe play, they learn of the capabilities, interests, needs and readiness of preschoolers.
- They need leaders who are interested, watchful, and concerned and will give guidance when needed.
- They need a leader who will encourage preschoolers to be active, to explore, to experiment, and to discover.
- They need a leader who understands that each child is an individual and that each one progresses at his or her own rate- a teacher who holds each child of great worth no matter what.
- EVERY PRESCHOOLER NEEDS: A TEACHER WHO WILL PAY ATTENTION TO HIM OR HER, WHO CAN TALK ABOUT MANY THINGS, BUT DOES NOT TELL TOO MUCH (OR TELL MORE THAN THE CHILD ASKS FOR).