

Water Play

What is it about water that makes it so inviting for children? They are driven to pour it, mix it and dump things into it. They like to carry it about in buckets and bins, use it to fill up bowls to the brim and send it coursing down ramps. We know kids can't resist a puddle. Washing hands and toilet flourishing are captivating. Do you know any child that can resist throwing a pebble or a stick into a pond? Water naturally inspires exploration. It screams out "Play With Me!" Here are 7 reasons why we think it is so important.

Your child is a natural scientist when she plays with water. When she plays, she is thinking, questioning and discovering its properties.

- As he fills up containers, he's exploring spatial relationships and measurement and number concepts, which are foundational to mathematical thinking.
- Play with water promotes cooperation.
- When he sends it down the ramps and gutters, he's gaining an awareness of gravity, flow, speed and force.
- When he adjusts those gutters to change the flow he's engaged in the scientific process and is also practicing engineering skills.
- When she digs a hole in the sand and fills it with water, she's exploring absorption and evaporation and is able to make theories about where the water goes, why the sand changes color when it's wet and how puddles are formed.

Your child's water play is actually inquiry based learning and the fact that she/he may be wet at pick-up is evidence of deep engagement.

-taken from the Kodo Kids blog at kodokids.com

