

Help Your Child Answer Logical Questions

Once children have a basic understanding of questions, it will be important to help them learn to answer questions that require logical thinking. There are many opportunities within your everyday interactions to talk about why things happen.

- When dressing to go outside, ask the child "What do you do if you are cold?" If they can't answer, explain, "If you are cold, you put on a coat or a sweater. That's why we put on our coats before we go outside."
- If a child says they are thirsty, ask them "What do we do if we are thirsty?" If they explain, "Get a drink", you can answer, "Right, let's get you a drink." If they can't answer, explain, "When we are thirsty we get a drink" before getting it for them.
- When you are playing with the children, make up "What if?" questions to ask them. For instance, if you are doing a craft, ask "What happens if we don't put the lid tight on the glue?" See if anyone can answer, then explain "If we don't put the lid on the glue dries out."
- When you are helping the children wash their hands, ask "What do we do when our hands are sticky? / covered with paint? etc."

Other questions could include

- "What do you do before you cross the road?"
- "What do you do when you are thirsty / hungry / hot / cold / tired / hurt?"
- "What do you do if you hear the baby crying?"
- "What do you do if you fall in the mud and get all dirty?"
- "What do we do before / after we eat?"