Vermont Early Learning: Science

Younger Toddlers

Physical Sciences	**Children construct concepts of the properties of matter, sound, motion and energy through inquiry, exploration and investigations.** 1 Repeat actions and observe results 2 Demonstrate ability to push and pull objects 3 Act upon objects to make them move in different ways 4 Explore properties of liquids and solids (e.g., dumping water or blocks from a container, roll play dough)
Life Sciences	**Children construct concepts about the characteristics of living organisms, their biology and ecosystems through exploration and investigations.** 1 Explore the characteristics of living things 2 Interact with plants and animals 3 Point to basic body parts (e .g., eyes, nose, mouth)
Earth and Space Sciences	**Children construct concepts about Earth's systems, the impacts of human activity on these systems, and Earth's place in the universe through observations, exploration, and investigations.** 1 Use senses and simple tools to explore earth materials (e.g., digging soil, tapping rocks, pouring sand) 2 Match basic weather to types of clothing needed for weather (e.g., raincoat for rain, boots for snow) 3 Point or attend to the objects in the sky during daytime and nighttime (e.g., moon, sun, stars, clouds)
Engineering Design	**Children design, experiment, construct, alter, and problem solve to modify the natural world and meet their needs and wants.** 1 Coordinate body movement for purposeful actions 2 Act on objects in different ways to make them move, ex. pushing vs kicking ball 3 Repeat actions purposefully, observing results 4 Push and pull objects to observe results Use simple tools to explore functions (e.g., a hammer is for pounding, a crayon is for paper) 6 Use a tool to get to an out of reach object

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7 Experiment with materials (ex. crayons, markers, play dough)

8 Experiments in multiple ways with objects to achieve goal

9 Asks, “What’s that?”

10 Experiment with arranging objects horizontally and vertically