

Play as a Powerful Tool for Socio-Emotional Learning and Beyond: How Can Parents' Words Add Value

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Content

- Potential Problem Behaviors in Young Children and Their Causes
- Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification and Holistic Development
- How to Enhance the Educational Benefits of Play through Dialogue

Potential Problem Behaviors in Young Children and Their Causes

Potential Problem Behaviors in Young Children and Their Causes

Problem behaviors in young children are closely related to children's cognitive and psychological development.

Potential Problem Behaviors in Young Children and Their Causes

- According to the theory proposed by psychologist Jean Piaget:

2 to 4 years old

Gradually develop mental representation abilities, start to use images and symbols, and initiate pretend play

- Thinking limitations such as egocentrism and lack of logical reasoning still exist.



This may lead to problem behaviors in young children, such as unwillingness to take turns, refusal to cooperate, giving up easily, and throwing tantrums

Potential Problem Behaviors in Young Children and Their Causes

- According to the theory proposed by psychologist Jean Piaget:

4 to 7 years old

- Possesses a strong curiosity about the surrounding environment and enjoys asking questions
- There remain numerous limitations in thinking, including:
 - ❖ Focus on one aspect of a situation and ignore other relevant features
 - ❖ Struggle to understand that actions can be reversed
 - ❖ Believe that changes in appearance alter quantity or value
 - ❖ Answer questions intuitively and are unable to explain the underlying reasoning



May lead young children to:

- Argue with others due to stubbornness
- Lose temper easily when rules change or objects are moved
- Lose emotional control when feeling shortchanged
- Easily give up when they cannot find a solution to a challenge

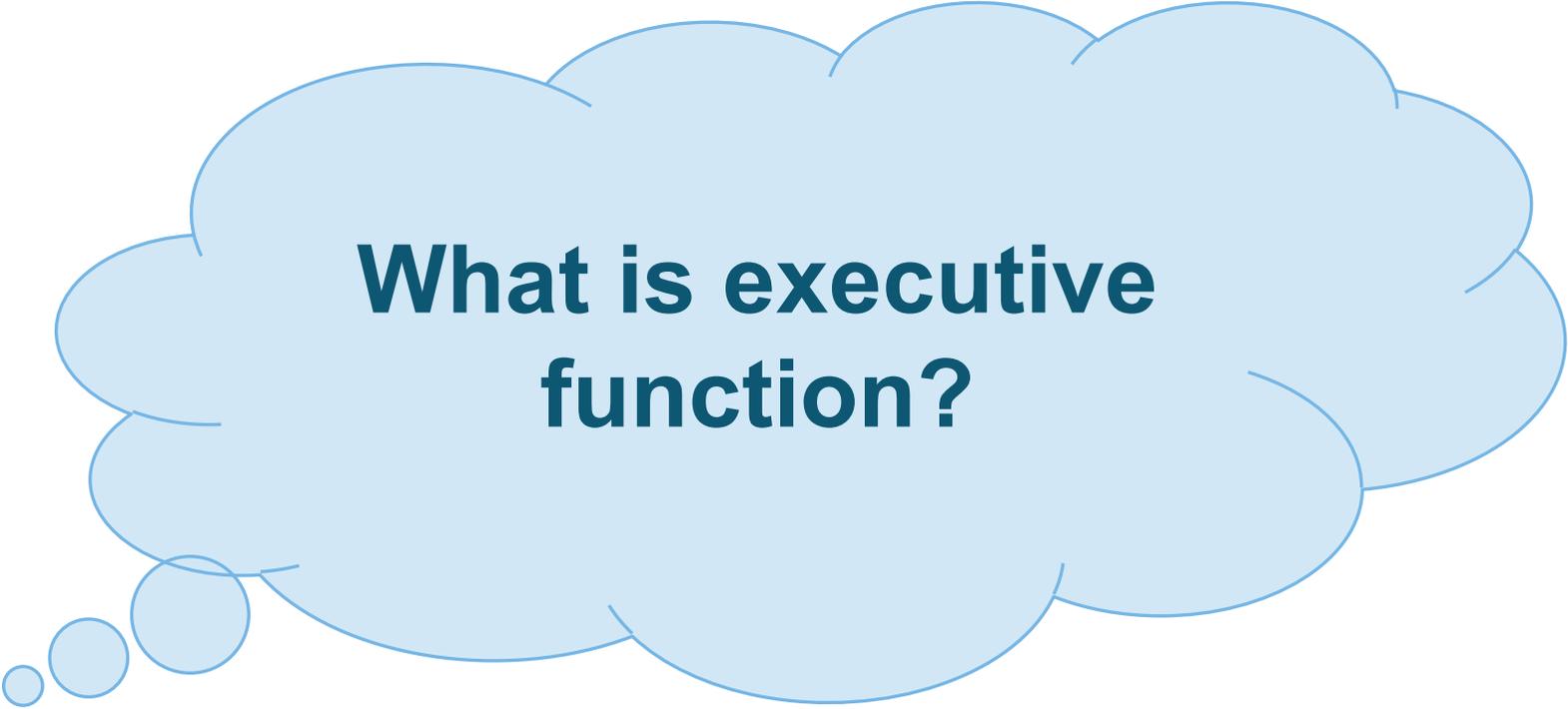
Potential Causes Behind Problem Behaviors in Young Children

- Psychologist Rudolf Dreikurs points out that the following goals may underlie problem behaviors in young children:
 - Undue attention
 - Struggle for power
 - Revenge
 - Display of inadequacy

Potential Causes Behind Problem Behaviors in Young Children

- Problem behaviors in young children may also stem from deficiencies in the following abilities:

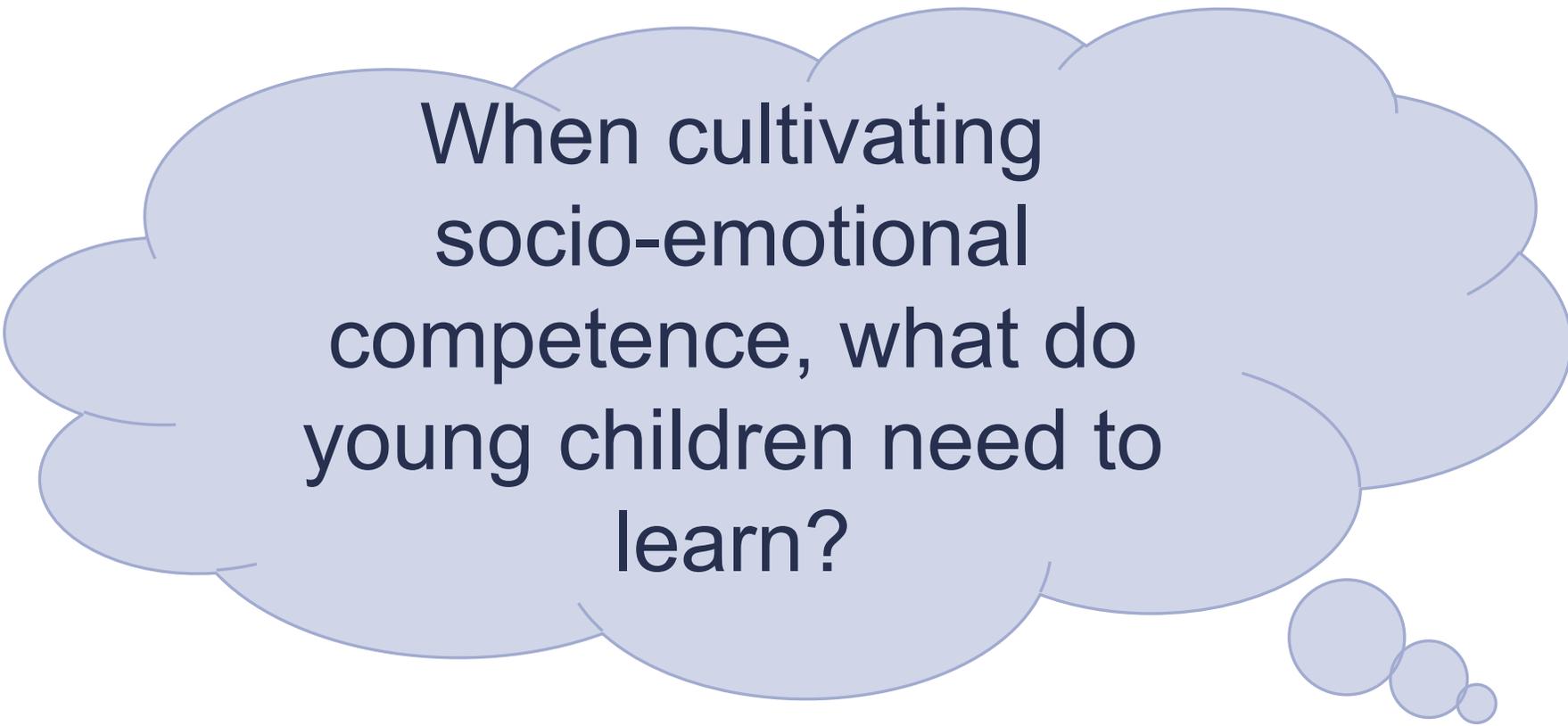




**What is executive
function?**

Key Elements of Executive Function

- Inhibitory control
- Working memory
- Cognitive flexibility



When cultivating
socio-emotional
competence, what do
young children need to
learn?

Core Competencies That Should Be Covered in Social-emotional Learning

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision-making

Types of Play

Different Types of Play

- Rough-and-tumble play
- Constructive play
- Pretend play
- Games with rules

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

- During play, young children may exhibit various problem behaviors, such as:
 - Refusing to take turns
 - Refusing to cooperate
 - Refusing to admit defeat
 - Giving up too easily
 - Throwing tantrums

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

Games provide young children with a relaxed and enjoyable setting to learn and practice various positive behaviors (such as taking turns, cooperating with others, and regulating emotions), thereby reducing the occurrence of problem behaviors later on.

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

- How to address children's problem behaviors during play?

Step 1: Observe

- Do not criticize or intervene immediately
- Calmly observe the child's behavior and the situation
- Pay attention to the reasons behind the behavior

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

- How to address children's problem behaviors during play?

Step 2: Understand

- Try to understand the needs or emotions behind your child's behavior
- Use simple language to acknowledge your child's feelings

Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification

- How to address children's problem behaviors during play?

Step 3: Guide

- Demonstrate appropriate behavior
- Offer choices and encouragement
- Reinforce positive behavior

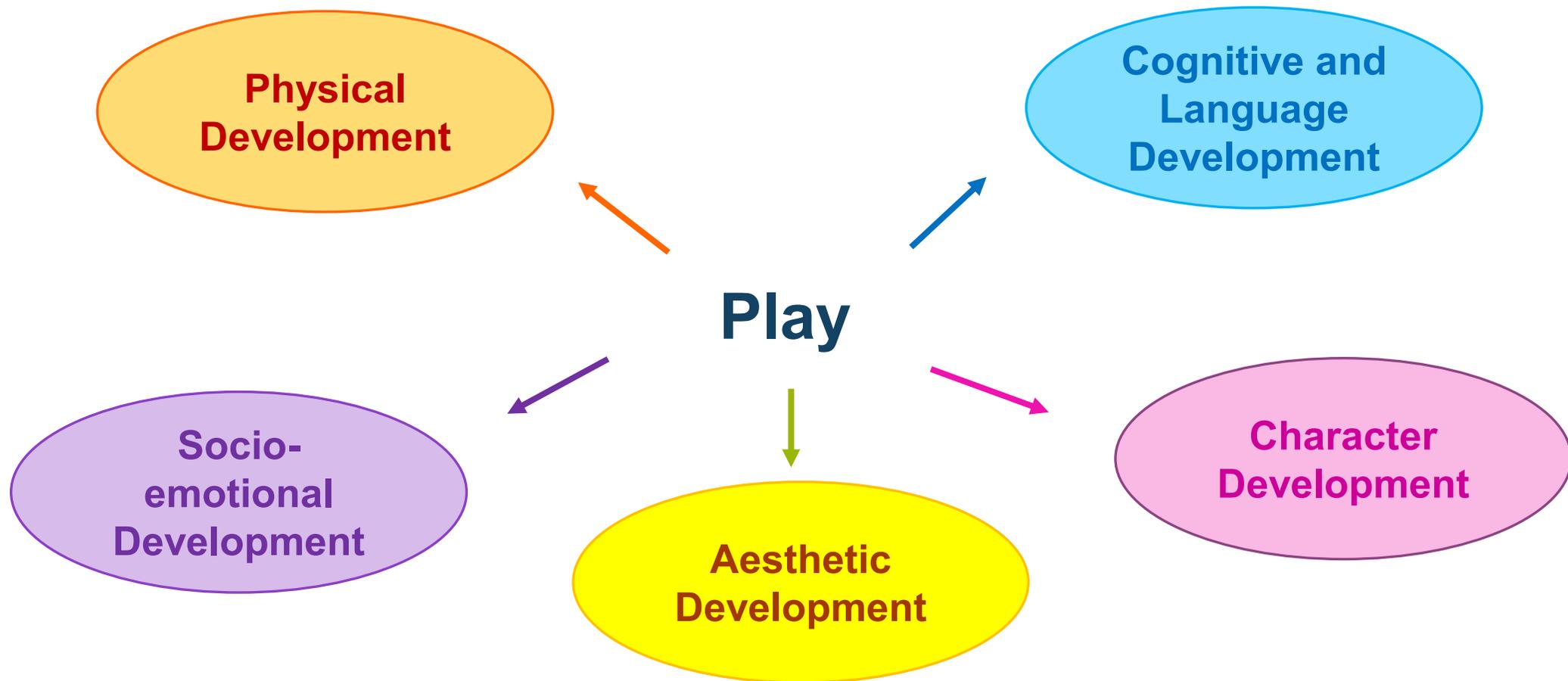
Potential Benefits of Play for Behavior Modification



Some games are specifically designed to promote young children's executive function and socio-emotional competence.

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development



Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

e.g.

Building Blocks

Physical Development	Cognitive and Language Development	Socio-emotional Development	Aesthetic Development	Character Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand-eye coordination • Finger dexterity • Hand muscle control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spatial concepts • Understanding of cause and effect • Classification and seriation skills • Verbal expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional regulation • Taking turns • Collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptualizing architectural forms • Appreciating the shape and color harmony of structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patience • Focus

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

Parents can also collect household items together with their children for building activities.

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

e.g.

Clay

Physical Development	Cognitive and Language Development	Socio-emotional Development	Aesthetic Development	Character Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finger dexterity• Hand muscle control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shape concepts• Verbal expression	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expressing emotions• Sharing creations with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freedom to shape• Imagination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patience• Focus

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

If needed, parents can provide young children with some creative inspirations.

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

e.g.

Playing House

Physical Development	Cognitive and Language Development	Socio-emotional Development	Aesthetic Development	Character Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem-solving skills • Planning and organizational skills • Verbal expression and comprehension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiencing and expressing emotions • Collaborating and interacting with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenario creation • Imagination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of responsibility

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

Parents should fully immerse themselves in their children's fantasy world.

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development

e.g.

Number Board Games

Physical Development	Cognitive and Language Development	Socio-emotional Development	Aesthetic Development	Character Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand-eye coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerical concepts Logical thinking Using language to express game strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotional regulation Taking turns Following the rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appreciating the board design and color scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patience Spirit of fair competition

Potential Benefits of Play for Holistic Development



Parents can create board games together with their children.

How to Enhance Play Benefits Through Effective Interactions

Interactive Strategies That Can Be Employed During Parent-child Play



**Three More,
One Less**

Interactive Strategies That Can Be Employed During Parent-child Play

- Criticize children less



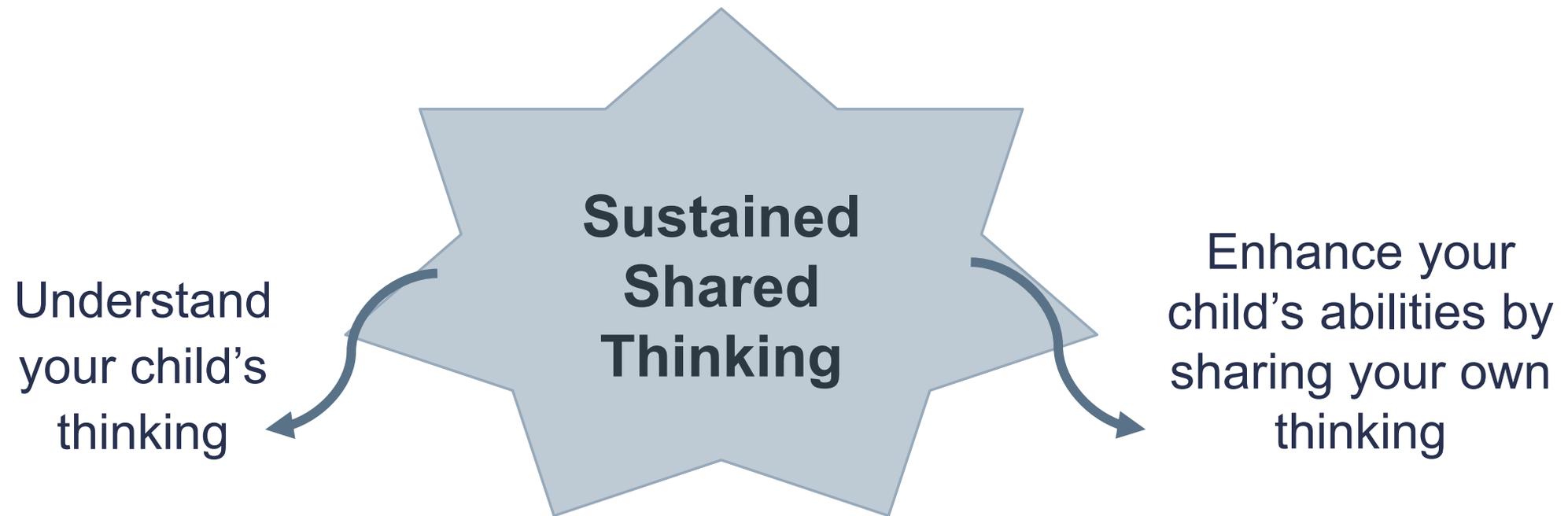
Replace criticism with
acceptance and
encouragement

Interactive Strategies That Can Be Employed During Parent-child Play

- Encourage children more frequently to think deeply about:
 - Details of the situation
 - Characteristics of the object and its relationships with other objects
 - Details of the incident and its connection with past experiences

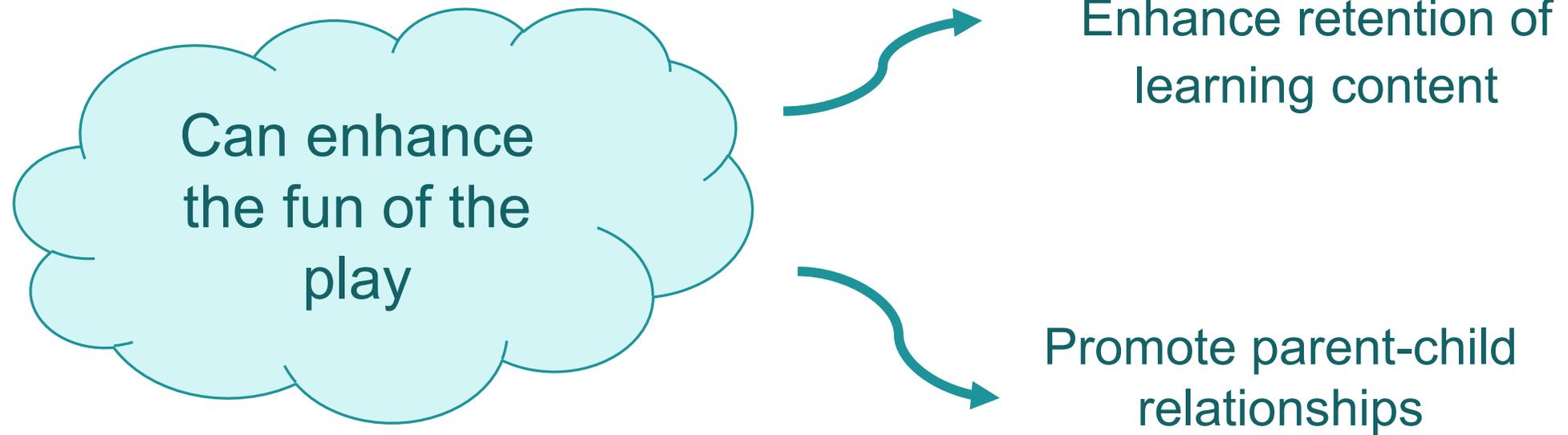
Interactive Strategies That Can Be Employed During Parent-child Play

- Share your thought processes with your child more often



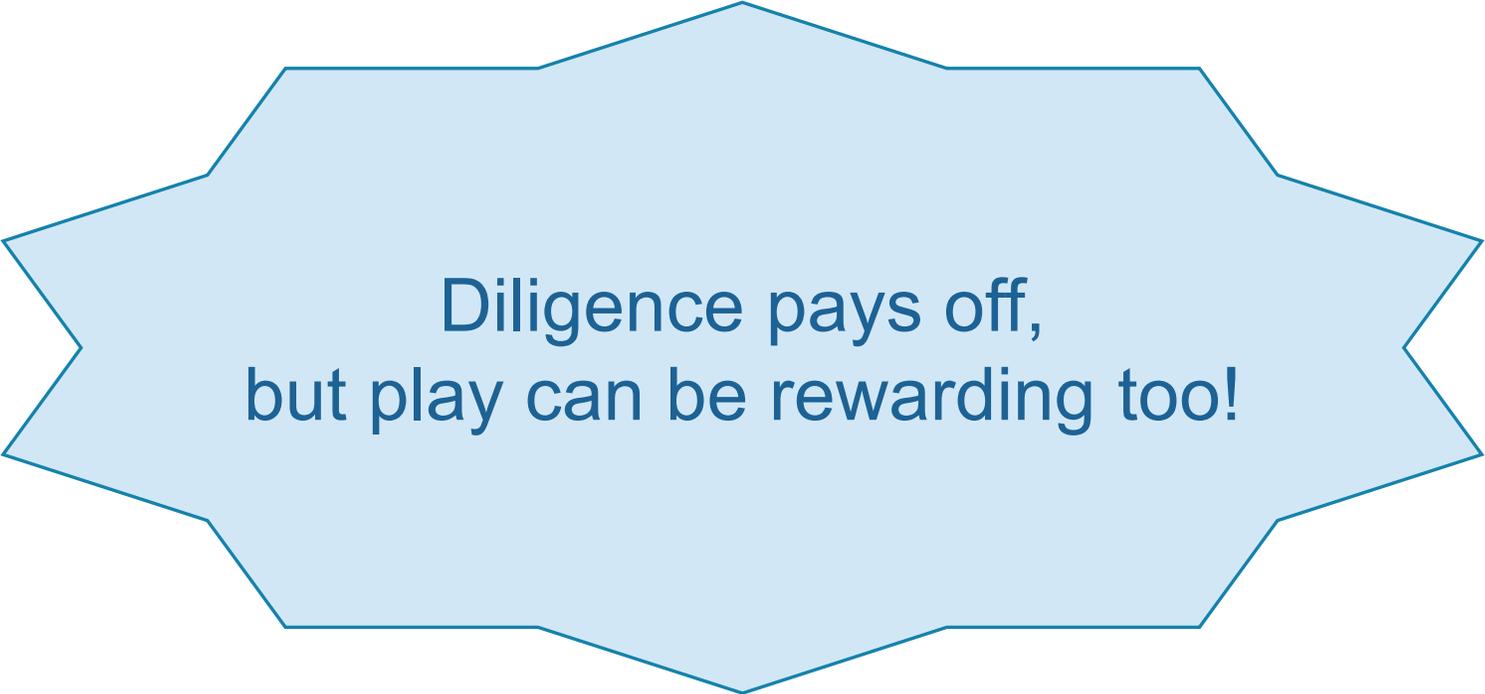
Interactive Strategies That Can Be Employed During Parent-child Play

- Inject more humor into the response to your child



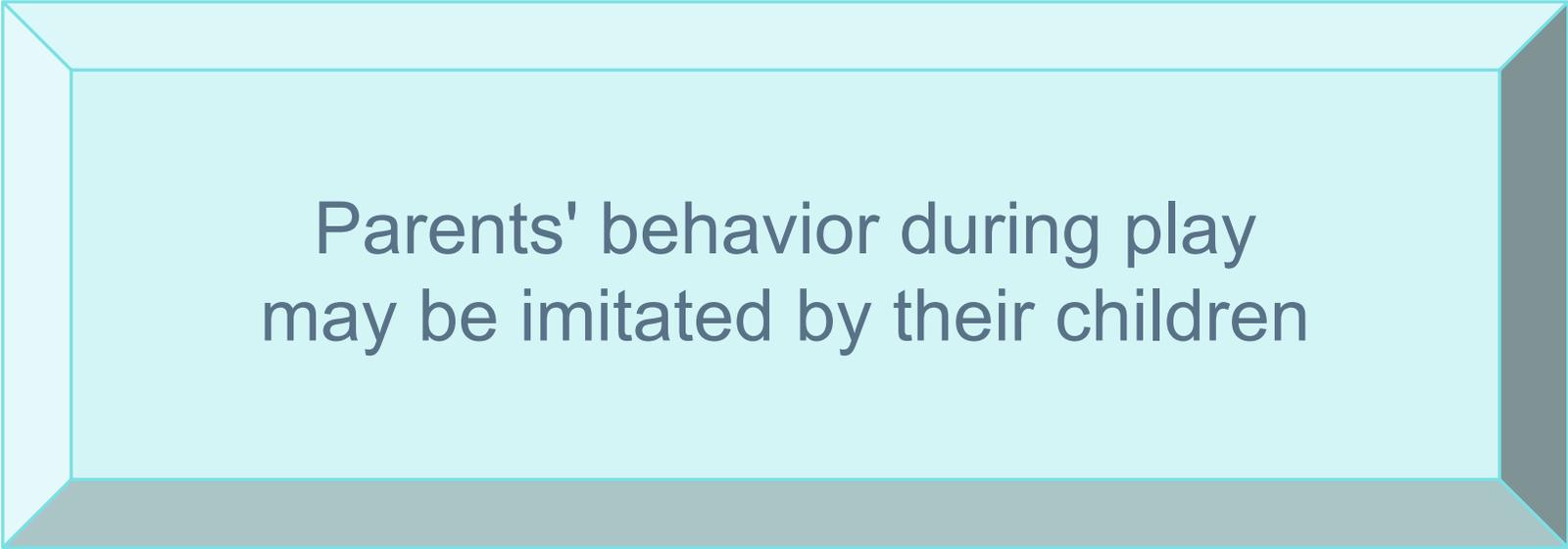
Conclusion

Conclusion



Diligence pays off,
but play can be rewarding too!

Conclusion



Parents' behavior during play
may be imitated by their children

Conclusion

Appropriate and moderate questioning can promote children's learning, whereas excessive questioning may easily cause them to develop aversion.

Conclusion

Remember the true purpose of parent-child play,
and enjoy the joyful moments it brings to
your family.

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