

Toys and Games

Toys and Games include puzzles, various table blocks, small construction materials such as Legos, board games, and collections of objects (including shells, bottle caps, and buttons). When children are offered a variety of toys and games they not only work on their fine motor skills but other areas develop as well.

Here at school, when the children are playing with toys and games, they are:

- *exploring different materials and how they work
- *using their imaginations
- *being creative
- *strengthening and controlling small muscles in their hands
- *learning to work cooperatively and solve problems
- *learning math ideas and concepts

What you can do at Home:

- *be involved in the play with your children
- *offer a variety of different, inexpensive items for your child to use: seashells, rocks, buttons, plastic bottle tops, etc.
- *suggest different activities: sorting by shape and color
- *ask open ended questions: "What did you make?", "Why do these belong together?"
- *Follow your child's lead and have fun!