

## What is Intentional Teaching?

Intentional teaching is an active process where teachers use their actions and interactions in purposeful ways to build upon and extend children's unique interests, strengths, and ideas. Learning is promoted by intentional teaching during play and routines with an individualized, supportive approach. Intentional teaching practices are adaptable and allow for differentiated instruction that expands children's understanding of concepts and skills.

## Why is Intentional Teaching important?

- Expands and extends children's interests and thinking
- Furthers children's cognitive and academic growth
- Fosters social, emotional, and physical developments
- Maximizes learning opportunities



## How can Intentional Teaching be promoted in the classroom?

- Providing plentiful free play experiences
- Encouraging children to explore their own unique interests
- Allowing children to choose their own play materials and companions
- Rotating throughout the room during free play and joining in children's play
- Recognizing individual differences, interests and abilities
- Identifying opportunities for children to become involved in play
- Asking open-ended questions, adding new vocabulary words, demonstrating concepts

## Intentional Teaching Practices will:



- ✓ Consider each child's individual interests, ideas, abilities, and needs
- ✓ Avoid a one-size-fits all approach to teaching
- ✓ Support active, individualized learning during both play and routines
- ✓ Provide a balance between teacher-initiated and child-initiated learning
- ✓ Increase participation in learning experiences through engagement
- ✓ Use smooth transitions as opportunities to incorporate math and language skills
- ✓ Incorporate logical concept exploration into free play