



all kids belong
Inclusion Support Services

Have you thought of trying: **FREE PLAY**

Remember: Children are engaged when they are occupied with interesting and stimulating materials.

- Do you provide a variety of materials (open-ended, cause and effect, etc.) that encourage self expression?
- Do you provide an appropriate number of materials?
- Do you have both challenging and less difficult materials available?
- Do you sit and engage with the children?
- Are the materials and activities developmentally and age appropriate for the children in your classroom?
- Do you model appropriate behaviours such as turn taking and sharing?
- Do you expand on the children's play (talking about what they are doing, asking open-ended questions, etc.)?
- Do you provide a private space (for children to be alone)?
- Do you provide open-ended materials such as blocks, sand, water and playdough (there is no right or wrong way to play with these types of activities)?
- Do you provide activities that are calming (sensory, sand, water, playdough, etc.)?
- Are all materials available for a significant amount of time during the day (i.e. art, dramatic play, sensory)?
- Do you introduce new materials, games, activities and centres to the children?
- Do you observe and follow the child's lead?
- Do you plan for "rainy days"?
- Do you provide opportunities for children to both play alone and play in small groups?

This sheet was created by the All Kids Belong team based on their years of knowledge and experience. If you have any further questions about free play/work time, please talk to your All Kids Belong Resource Consultant.