


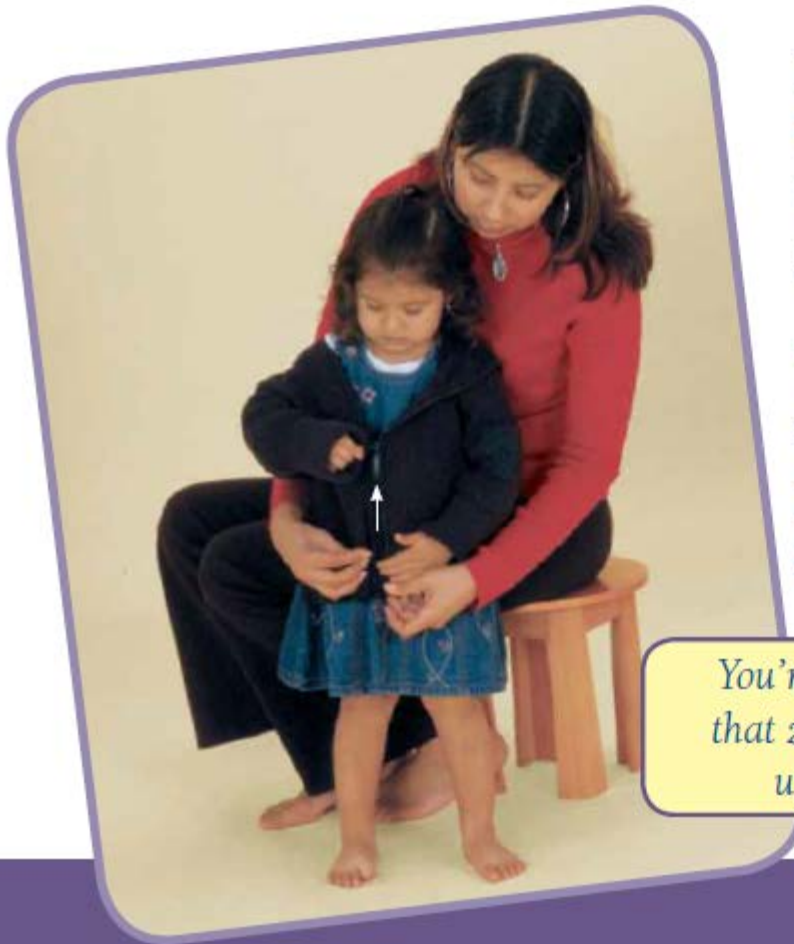
AKA Summer Activity Weekly Guide

OVERVIEW:

Young children build school readiness skills through meaningful everyday play and authentic experiences. Use this activity guide for fun summer learning.

BOOK	Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6HKKXuzOIk	
SONG	Wash The Germs Away (To the rhythm of Five Little Monkeys) _____	
GROSS MOTOR	Button and Zip Game 118	
ACTIVITY	When, How, Why? Game 159	
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT	Plan Ahead: Try to anticipate what your child may do or need in various situations. Make sure that you plan ahead to set your child up for a successful experience. Hope for the best, but plan for the worst. Always have a back-up plan! www.cainclusion.org	

Button and Zip



Lead your child through the steps of buttoning and unbuttoning and zipping and unzipping.

Your child will become more confident with her personal care skills of dressing and undressing.

*You're moving
that zipper up,
up, up.*

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Why this is important

Guiding your child in learning to button and zip helps her learn the skills needed for independent dressing. Children who are struggling to be independent often are unwilling to accept the help they need. By learning the more difficult steps like buttoning and zipping, she will be able to take care of her own dressing at home or school.

What you do

- Give your child a smock or sweater with large buttons and buttonholes. Explain and demonstrate how to put the button through the buttonhole.
- Show her how to push the button halfway through the hole. Then, hold that part of the button as she pulls the cloth over the other half.
- Keep a few garments handy that have easy-to-fasten buttons. Let her practice during a long car ride or while waiting at the doctor's office. Encourage her to button her own clothes when she is ready.
- Teach her how to zip a zipper by letting her zip up your coat for you. Explain how to hold the bottom of the coat as she pulls up on the zipper.
- Resist the urge to finish the job for her. She needs lots of practice to master this skill!

Another idea

Invite your child to practice buttoning and zipping in front of a mirror. Encourage her to show a friend or relative what she is learning.

Let's read together!

Zippers, Buttons, and Bows
by Moira Butterfield

When, How, Why?

Why is it so cold?



In daily events or after reading a book, occasionally ask a question that begins with one of the words *when*, *how*, or *why*.

These questions will stimulate your child to think more deeply about time, processes, and reasons.

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Why this is important

Asking *when*, *how*, or *why* questions will deepen the level of your child's thinking. To answer them she will need to talk about time, process, and reasons. This encourages her to give longer answers with several parts. Thinking about *how* and *why* are some of the hardest tasks we do throughout life. This early practice can give your child a pattern of successful thinking to follow and to build on as she grows older. When she answers questions during book reading, she is building her early literacy skills.

What you do

- Ask your child *when*, *how*, and *why* questions during conversation or reading. *When do we eat breakfast? How did you dig that deep hole? Why did the three bears go for a walk?*
- Give your child plenty of time to think about her answers to these challenging questions. Return to simpler questions if she struggles to answer.
- Pause after reading a page of a book together and ask one of the questions, so she can think about the story.

Let's read together!

Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf
by Lois Ehlert

Another idea

Continue to ask questions that gently test your child's knowledge. Many everyday moments such as riding in the car, taking a bath, or drawing with chalk can offer opportunities for question-and-answer sessions with your child.