

BALL PLAY

Cultivate and encourage
ALL young children (0-5;
with and without
disabilities) to explore STEM
concepts through activities
as independently as
possible with adaptations in
their natural environments.

USING VIDEO TO SUPPORT REFLECTIVE PRACTICES

Video demonstrations are commonly used to support pre-service and in-service practitioners' observations and reflections (Marsh & Mitchell, 2013). Research has demonstrated that when professional development is provided through the effective use of videos, it can increase teachers' understanding of teaching practices and foster reflection about their own practices (Major & Watson, 2018). This guide uses video clips as well as a list of reflective questions to help practitioners identify ways to promote STEM learning for all children and reflect on how they can be applied in their own classrooms.



VIDEO DESCRIPTION

The video clip shows a child, Symphany, and her teachers engaging in a STEM learning experience in an informal learning space. Symphany enjoys the beach balls with colored paper inside and trying new things. Her teachers are encouraging her to explore different things she can do with the ball, like dropping it.



https://www.youtube.com/embed/wjRLHL-dpck?feature=oembed



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REFLECTION QUESTIONS

As you watch the video the first time, think about what you notice about the children's thinking, engagement, and the adult scaffolding?

- What do you notice about the child's understanding of shaking and dropping the ball? How is the child engaging in the science practice of exploring and force and motion?
 - Hint: Pay attention to children's actions/behaviors and verbal responses.
- How do the teachers facilitate Symphany's trying new things? What are some examples?
 - Hint: Think about what they said, asked, and did.
- How do the teachers foster independent exploration during the activity?
- How would you coach families to scaffold children's engagement in exploring forces and motion? How else could you support families to integrate additional STEM learning experiences?

REFERENCES

- Major, L., & Watson, S. (2018). Using video to support in-service teacher professional development: The state of the field, limitations and possibilities. Technology, Pedagogy and Education, 27(1), 49–68. https://doi.org/10.1080/1475939X.2017.1361469
- Marsh, B., & Mitchell, N. (2014). The role of video in teacher professional development. Teacher Development, 18(3), 403–417. https://doi.org/10.1080/13664530.2014.938106

