

What is a Schema? Why is it important?

Schemas are repeated patterns of behavior that children will go through in order to explore their environment. The answer to "Why do they always have to do that?" is "Because, that's how they learn".

The 9 schemas associated with children are:
Trajectory, Transporting, Enveloping, Orientation, Positioning,
Rotational, Transformation, Connecting and Containment.

Containment

Putting one thing inside another, including themselves.



If he fits, he sits
Sitting in boxes or baskets
Likes to pour from one thing to another
Likes to play in forts or tunnels
Puts things in different containers



Ways to encourage exploration:

- Bin with sand, water, rice or pasta to scoop and fill
- Large boxes with a door cut into them for easy access
- Shape sorters
- Containers and boxes of varying sizes
- Sheets, blankets or scarves to make forts with



Language to use: hide, under, inside, fit, pour, scoop, into