



# 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.

## Trajectory

The movement of things or themselves through space



**Drop or throw,  
Push in straight line,  
Climb, Jump,  
Run, Slide,  
Likes running water**



## Ways to encourage exploration:

- Soft balls or bean bags to throw
- Ramps to roll things down
- Cushions to jump on
- Crayons and paper to draw lines on
- Cars to roll or use to paint with
- Blocks to stack and knock over
- Things to slide or a slide to slide on



Language to use: fast, slow, over, under, high, low, up, down

