

May I Take Your Order?

Primary Objectives

14b. Engages in sociodramatic play

Why It's Important

When you make writing materials available to your child, you provide him with a purposeful opportunity to practice scribbling with the intention of communicating. He may also enjoy imitating the various ways he sees adults write and use print in everyday situations.

Materials

Notepad; pencils; pretend kitchen materials; pretend restaurant materials

What You Do

1. Assemble restaurant props for your child to play with. Include a notepad and pencils.
2. Show the new materials to your child. Invite him and other children to use the materials and props during their play.
3. If your child does not discover them on his own, point out the writing materials. *I heard you say you are making chicken and rice. Here are paper and pencils in case you want to write down all of the ingredients you'll need for cooking.*
4. Ask your child questions to keep him engaged in play. *How does your spaghetti taste? Are you enjoying your cheeseburger? Who is paying for lunch?*
5. You can provide props for other play scenarios, such as a doctor's office, post office, and a grocery store. Keep the props available for as long as your child is interested in using them.