



Asking Why?

Young children often ask the question “**why?**” Curiosity is a natural emotion. When children ask questions they are trying to learn more about the world around them. Help your child discover the answer.

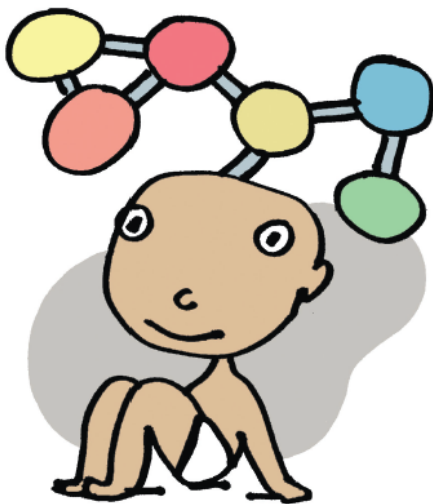


STUART GOLDENBERG

INFANT:

Play with toys that have different sounds and features.

- At the start say: “**Ready, set, go!**”
- After playing with the toy, say: “**I wonder what will happen next.**”



STUART GOLDENBERG

TODDLER:

Walk around the neighborhood. Ask your child questions about what he sees. For example:

- **How is the leaf** on the ground different from the leaf on the tree?
- **Are all petals** on this flower the same size and color?
- **How many legs** does this bug have?
- **How many colors** can you see in this mud puddle?

PRESCHOOLER:

When your child asks a question, suggest ways to look for answers.

- Example: “**I wonder about the stars at night too. Let’s try to find out more about it.**”
- Then use nature, books from the library, the Internet, or an experiment to explore ideas and answers.

Adapted from materials developed and provided by Ready At Five (www.readyatfive.org).