

Basic Foundations

Birth to Three Years — Social Studies

Young children learn about social studies firsthand by being members of a family, community, and school where they live, work, and share with others.

(Dodge, D.T., Colker, L.J. and Heroman, C. 2000)

History



Young children are learning when they —

- * Recognize when caregiver is not present—even though having the baby cry is hard for a caregiver, it does let them know that the baby is becoming aware of the social environment.
- * Cooperate with a routine—learning the difference between day and night is the start of a child’s social learning.
- * Recognize the beginning of an event—when they see a bottle or bowl of food, they know that it is time to eat.
- * Use their own vocabulary to relate to experiences—anything that happened in the past happened “yesterday.”



Adults are being supportive when they —

- * React to child’s actions and understand a young child’s cues—learning the different cues will help develop the child’s social communication with the adults around them.
- * Talk to the child about what has happened—using words like “last night” and “this morning” helps a child learn about timing in the social world around them.
- * Encourage the child to recall information about the immediate past—talking about the trip to the store that morning and what was picked up helps a child remember the past history.

Websites for Fun and Ideas—

www.storyplace.org

www.tinyfootprints.org

parenting.ivillage.com



Based on the
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