

SCIENCE: LEARNING AT HOME

SCIENCE AND CURIOSITY

Science is about asking questions

Young children are natural scientists due to their immense curiosity and questioning nature.

They are continually asking and answering questions in an attempt to make sense of their world.

There are many questions you can ask your children to support and encourage their curiosity.

Questions that urge your children to think out answers, explain their responses, talk about their opinions and explain why they made decisions support their inquisitive nature.

Support your children by ‘thinking aloud’ as you do things – this shows them the process of finding answers.

Question	Example
What does...?	<p><i>What does it feel like?</i></p> <p><i>Close your eyes and tell me how it feels.</i></p> <p><i>What does it look like?</i></p> <p><i>What does it taste like?</i></p> <p><i>Have you tasted something like that before?</i></p> <p><i>What does it smell like?</i></p> <p><i>What does it sound like?</i></p> <p><i>Where have you heard a sound like that before?</i></p>
I wonder why...	<i>I wonder why the shadow has moved.</i>
What would happen if...?	<i>What would happen if I let go of the ball?</i>
How does...?	<i>How does the spider build its web?</i>
What if...?	<i>What if you were a bird?</i>
How can you...?	<i>How can you make the blocks balance?</i>

