



Hello!

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Goals



What is Early STEM

You will develop an understanding of what STEM looks like in early childhood



Why Early Math

You will learn important early math concepts



STEM + Flannel Boards

You will develop strategies to integrate early STEM into flannel board activities





What is STEM?







STEM in Early Childhood









Why STEM?

"Brain and skills -building
experiences early in life are critical
for child development, and highquality early STEM experiences can
support children's growth across
areas as diverse as executive
function and literacy development."
STEM Starts Early - report from the
Joan Ganz Cooney Center

Early Math

Math and logic learning are imperative to later success in school and life. A review of longitudinal studies on school readiness has found that early math skills, particularly an understanding of numbers, is a greater predictor of success than early reading skills.









STEM + Early Childhood









Shapes

Identifying shapes helps children understand properties of different objects.



Colors

Being able to recognize different colors is an important STEM skill and forms a foundation for mixing and blending colors and helps build background knowledge that is important for later literacy learning.



Identifying Objects

Understanding the name for different objects, like chairs, books, or tables, helps children build vocabulary and understand that objects can be defined, classified, and organized.



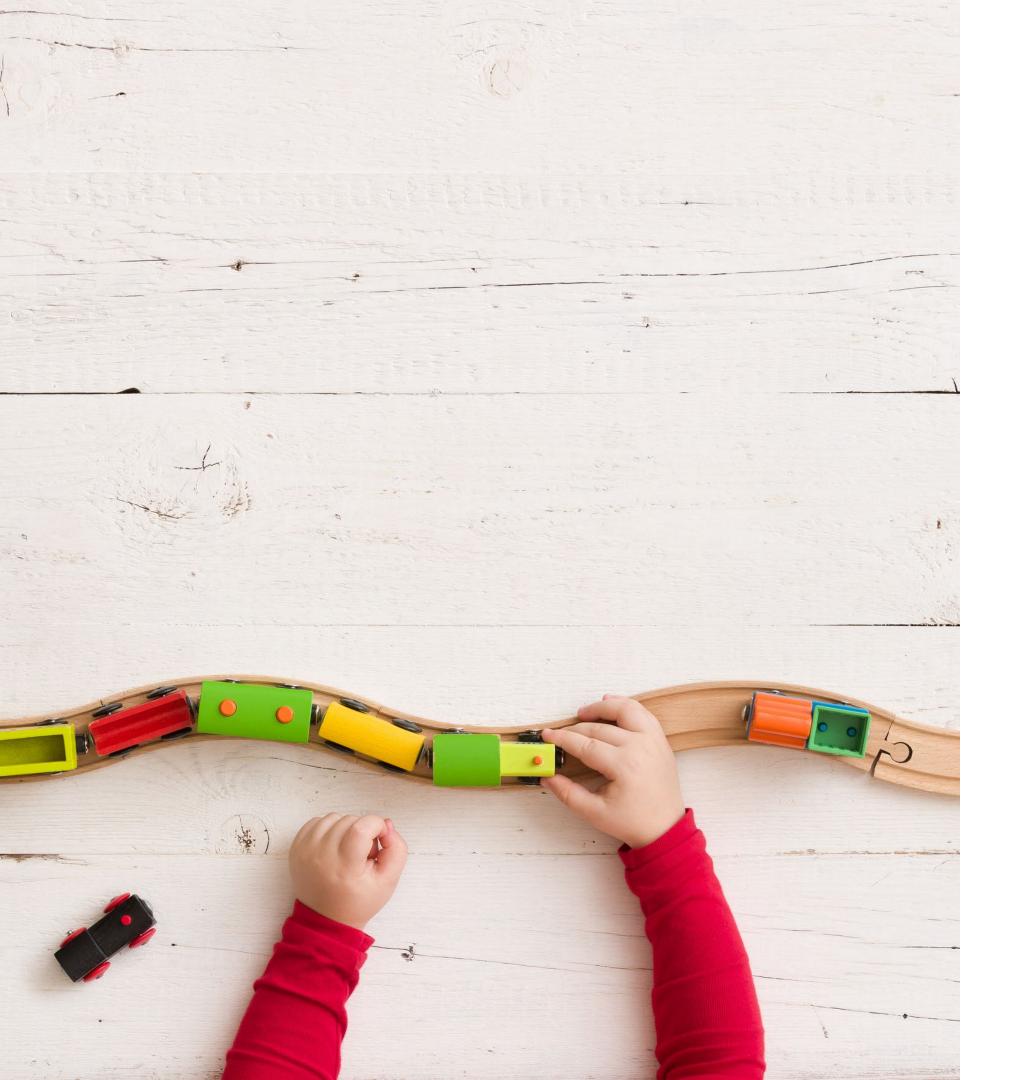
Comparisons

Understanding things that are alike and different, exploring opposites, and making comparisons.



Patterns

Infants begin to understand
patterns and routines very early
and toddlers build on this
understanding to create and
recognize patterns.



Sequences

Preschoolers learn to follow rules, follow directions, and recognize sequences. All of these are basic STEM concepts that are foundational to processes like the Scientific Method.



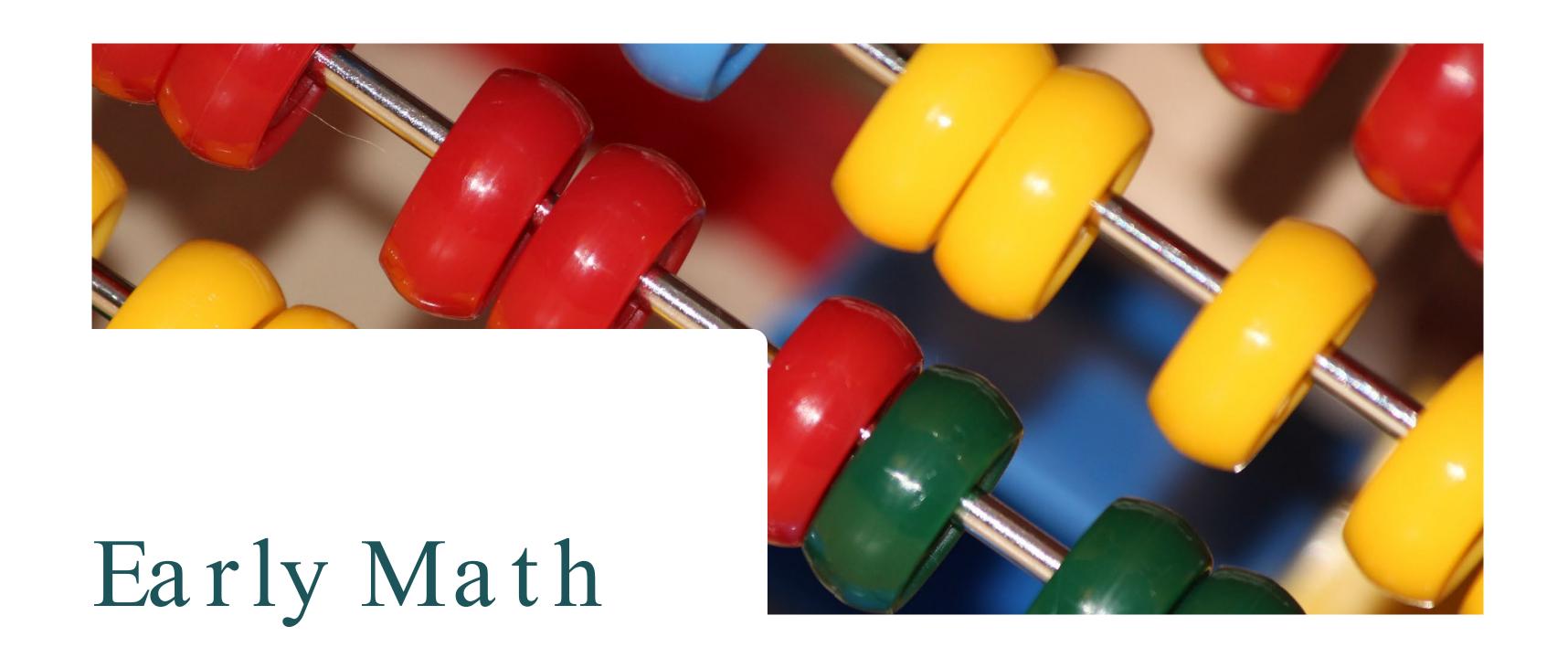
Engineering

Understanding spatial relationships contributes to an understanding of engineering.



Logic & Problem Solving

Play games that use the process of elimination and deductive reasoning.



Ordinality

Understanding that numbers represent a fixed amount. The number "1" means that there is one of something, the number "2" means that there are two of something, etc. Using fingers to count and having other tactile counting experiences helps children develop a deeper understanding of ordinality.



Subitization

Being able to recognize an amount within a grouping without counting. A good example of this is when you role a dice and get a "3", you understand that the amount on the dice is "3" without having to count all the dots.



Use STEM Language

- Let's count or How Many?
- Use spatial directions like above, under, or behind
- Ask about colors or patterns
- Use words like compare,
 equals, less than, more than









Resources



Development and Research in Early Mathematics Education

Erikson Institute

Early Math Collaborative





Bay Area
Discovery
Museum

LEARN MORE

ICfL Niche Academy

- Storytime 101
- Early STEM
- Countdown to Coding

Thank you!

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