

CREATIVE QUESTIONING

- ✓ **Ask open-ended questions:** Show the child a picture, then ask questions to stimulate and create a thinking atmosphere, for example: What are the people in the picture doing? What are the people saying? What would happen if ...?
 - ✓ **Ask children to use their senses:** Young children may often have their creative talents stretched by asking them to use their senses in an unusual way.
 - Have children close their eyes and then guess what you have placed in their hands - a piece of foam rubber, a small rock, etc.
 - Have children close their eyes and guess at what they hear - use such sounds as shuffling cards, jingling coins, rubbing sandpaper, ripping paper, etc.
 - ✓ **Ask children about changes:** One way to help children to think more creatively is to ask them to change things to make them the way they would like them to be, for example:
 - What would taste better if it were sweeter?
 - What would be nicer if it were smaller?
 - What would be more fun if it were faster?
 - What could be more exciting if it went backwards?
 - ✓ **Ask questions with lots of answers.** Any time you ask a child a question which requires a variety of answers, you are aiding creative thinking skills. Here are some examples using the concept of water:
 - What are some of the uses of water?
 - How does water help us?
 - What always stays underwater?
 - ✓ Other concepts: fire, sand, cars, smoke, ice
- Ask "What would happen if..." questions.** These questions are fun to ask and allow the children to really use their imaginations. Here are some:
- What would happen if all the trees in the world were blue?
 - What would happen if all the cars were gone?
 - What would happen if everybody wore the same clothes?
- ✓ **Ask "In how many different ways..." questions.** These questions also extend a child's creative thinking.
 - In how many different ways could a spoon be used?
 - In how many different ways could a button be used?