

## Objective 12 Remembers and connects experiences

### Strategies

- Talk about the child's home experiences and use the child's home language (if possible) to help him or her relate old and new experiences.
- Demonstrate and explain how different experiences relate, e.g., "Your sweater goes over your head, just as your T-shirt goes over your head."
- Use gestures and language to draw attention to particular features of objects and people.
- Give cues involving many senses, not just verbal cues, to help children remember and learn particular information.
- Use photos and objects to talk about the child's past experiences.
- Involve children in "Remember when..." games and discussions, e.g., Ask, "Do you remember the elephant we saw at the zoo yesterday?" Talk with toddlers about events in the immediate past, and talk with preschoolers and kindergartners about events that took place in the more distant past.
- Expand on children's fragmented recollections by asking varied questions, adding information to children's statements, and commenting about events.
- Encourage children to represent events in multiple ways. For example, after a trip to the fire station, follow up discussions by making a class book with photos and drawings of the trip. Place photos of the trip in the Block area so children can re-create the fire station or fire truck. Develop a list with children of new props to include for dramatic play. Read books or look on the internet for information about firefighters, and compare the information with what the children experienced on their trip.
- Give children enough time to think and make connections before expecting an answer.
- Play memory games like "What's Missing?" Display a few items, remove one, and invite children to tell which one is missing. Display and remove more items with older children.
- Guide older preschool and kindergarten children to make analogies. Help them to see ways in which things they learned about earlier are similar to other things. For example, after studying turtles, they may notice that crabs, crawfish, and lobsters also have shells that help protect them.
- Play games like, "What do they have in common?" Show children pictures of various animals, people and/or objects and have them communicate ways in which they are alike.