

Picture Reading

Primary Objectives

1c. Takes care of own needs appropriately

Why It's Important

Picture cards depicting routines will help your child master with his personal care skills independently. Picture cards also help him make meaning from pictures and print.

Materials

Paper; markers; tape; card stock; photos or drawings of the steps in routines

What You Do

1. Make pictorial instructions for routines. Use photos or drawings of children engaged in the routine. Add written steps that describe each picture.
2. Post the pictures from left to right in an appropriate location at your child's eye level (at the sink for hand washing, by his closet for putting on shoes, by the toilet for using the bathroom, etc.).
3. Show the routine picture cards to your child and point out their location to him. *These cards are here to help you remember what to do.*
4. Go through the steps with your child, pointing to each picture as he completes the step. *It says, Turn the water on. Let's turn the water on. Okay, next it says, Wet hands. Let's wet our hands.*
5. Leave the picture cards in place as reminder to your child of how to follow the personal care routines.
6. Refer to the cards at a later time if your child does not remember to complete all of the steps in a routine. You can also make cards for other experiences to help him understand what to do next.