# What are Behavioral Schema?

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Patterns of behavior that children repeat in their independent play.

Children all over the world repeat schema.

Opportunities to engagein schema make play more engaging.

Experts believe children are "wired" to repeat schema in order to build body and brain, and even form thinking processes.

**ONLINE QUIZ:**

**What common schema may be dominant in my child's play these days?**

# Transporting

Pick up objects,
put them into a container,
dump out and repeat.
Haul around "hefty" things.

Fill up wagons, carts,
strollers, etc. and "transport"
objects around.

# ROTATING/ CIRCULATING

**WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:**

Spin myself in circles and roll down the hill.

Stir and mix things around.

ove to watch things that rotate, like wheels, fans or the clothes dryer.

# TRAJECTORY

**WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:**

Move my body in straight lines as when walking on a log, climbing up a ladder or whizzing down a slide.

Pulley play.

Throw, drop and roll objects in straight lines.

# Transforming

**WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:**

Transform the shape, feel and look of materials.

Pick, pluck and pull things apart.

Turn water & dirt into mud, make potions in the yard, or mix all of the Play-doh colors together.

# Enveloping/Enclosing

Cover, wrap or enclose
things or myself.

Climb into empty boxes
or hide out in forts.

Tuck treasures away
in boxes, bags,
or hidden spots.

Play hide and seek.

# Connecting

Connect things to one another.

Join train tracks, link LEGO bricks, or build "fences" out of blocks.

Love to use tape, glue and velcro to stick things together.

Just the right kind of open-ended play opportunities give kids the chance to go deep into schema play and learn as they do.

# Engage Your Child In Play That Supports Schema

- Find a Tinkergarten class near you.

- Browse or search our DIY Activities.

- Interested in inspiring this kind of playful learning? Find out more about becoming a Tinkergarten Leader in your community.