



Passive TV viewing becomes an interactive experience for young viewers, enhancing language development and cognitive skills and encouraging imaginative play.

### Supplies

- ★ TV (Video Monitor)
- ★ Educational video
- ★ Dramatic play props

# Interactive TV Play

Skills Learned: Language Development, Cognitive Development, Creative Play

## Directions

**Preparation:** Before introducing and viewing the video, prepare a play area with props and toys that relate to the video. (i.e. if the video is about firefighters, make available props such as a firefighter's hat and badge, a hose, and firefighter trucks and toys.) Building blocks are another great prop children can use in their imaginative play.

### Activity:

- 1 Just as you would a story book, introduce the video to the children before viewing it. Highlight the main concepts that will be shown.
- 2 While you are watching the video with the children, pause it at times to discuss some of the ideas that are being presented. Note if the children have been able to follow along.
- 3 When the video has ended, ask the children some open-ended questions about what they have seen. Keep the questions simple, but make sure the children understand what they have just seen.
- 4 Transition the kids from watching the video into an interactive play experience. Kids will enjoy acting out the things they have just learned.

**Note:** Blank paper and crayons are an easy way children can draw about what they have just seen. Finally, storybooks are one more great way you can extend the children's learning experience.

**Tips for Mixed Ages:** Some videos will be appropriate for a wider age range, and others will not. Preview videos before viewing with children so you can determine whether or not it is appropriate for them. The written description, rating, or the recommended viewing age on a video's cover are not always reliable. Unlike a book that you are reading to children, you cannot easily edit parts of a video while you are viewing it.

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