

# High Scope's 5 Ingredients of Active Learning

## 1. Materials

Programs offer abundant supplies of diverse, age-appropriate materials. Materials are appealing to the senses and are open ended - that is, they lend themselves to being used in a variety of ways and help expand children's experiences and stimulate their thoughts.

## 2. Manipulation

Children handle, examine, combine, and transform materials and ideas. They make discoveries through direct hands-on and "minds'on" contact with these resources.

## 3. Choice

Children choose materials and play partners, change and build on their play ideas, and plan activities according to their interests and needs.

## 4. Child Language and Thought

Children describe what they are doing and understanding. They communicate verbally and nonverbally as they think about their actions and modify their thinking to take new learning into account.

## 5. Adult Scaffolding

"Scaffolding" means adults support children's current level of thinking and challenge them to advance to the next stage. In this way, adults help children gain knowledge and develop creative problem-solving skills.