



# Learning Lounge

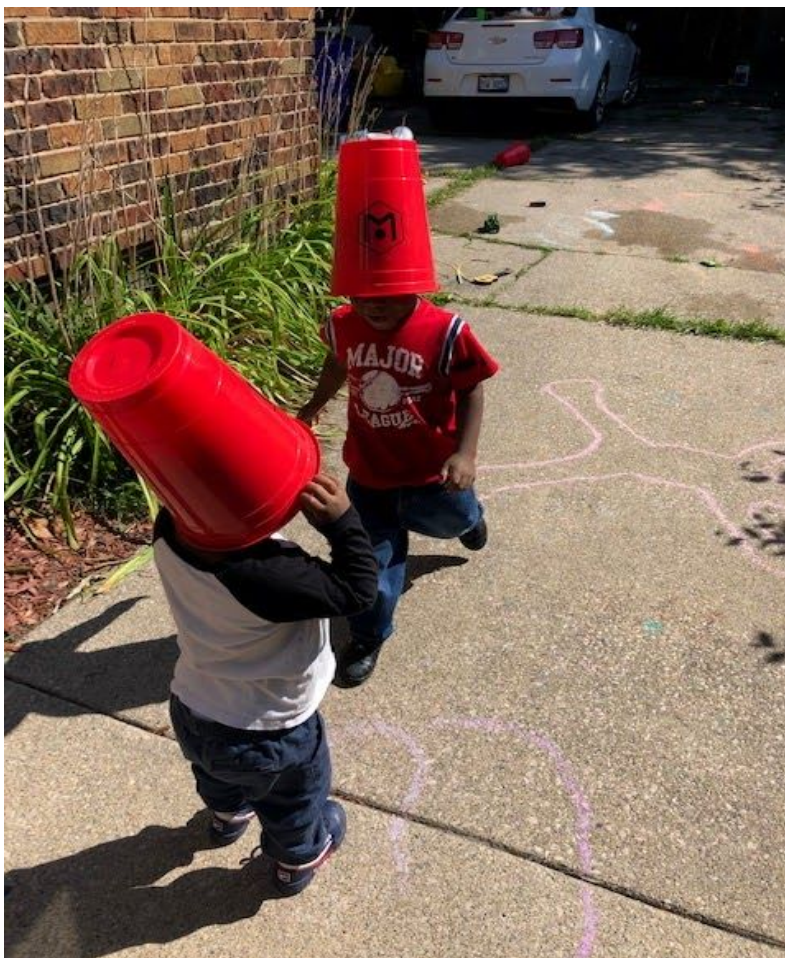
*Curriculum piece for your littles!*



## Did you know?

Children have more than 100 languages that they can express, explore and learn through. They not only include reading, writing and language but painting, drawing, dramatic play and so much more. Society puts pressure on the families of young children to make sure they are "Kindergarten Ready". Yet the reality is many of them do not have the tools needed to be successful in the Kindergarten classroom. By allowing children to experience a play based approach, they learn concepts such as pre-literacy skills, mathematical skills and social-emotional techniques. All of this takes place while being in a learning environment that fosters creativity and imagination! For example: Holding a paintbrush/marker is a precursor to writing, singing songs at Morning Meeting increases brain development as well as develops listening skills and comprehension. Dressing up allows children to develop Gross Motor Skills, Vocabulary building as they decide which role they want to be, problem solving as well as socialization and the list goes on! So much learning happens when we put the children in charge of their learning and we become co-learners with them.

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**“To be loved, to be valued and to be listened to...to have the space and time to play and explore...then children will learn.” Suzanne Axelson**

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Stamping helps with fine motor skills, early literacy and providing limited letters encourages communication.

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Providing your child with small parts can seem so simple but because they can become anything in a child's mind, the play that erupts from this can become complex. In this photo the child built a train with passengers waiting and very specifically asked for the gems to turn at the center because the train was turning.

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## How can I do this at home?



Provide children with items that can become anything (Loose Parts).

Corks, clothespins, boxes, recycled paper, pipe cleaners, old clothes, fabric, markers etc and watch them explore! One of the biggest ways

to grab their attention is the setup of the tools provided (Provocation). Take pictures, take notes and be an observer as they explain their process.(Documentation) As an adult (co-learner) let the child guide the way and soon you will be the witness of a grand work!

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