

# Everyday Experiences

March/April 2020

Your participation is crucial to the development and carryover of your child's language skills. You can help them learn to use their vocabulary and skills in a variety of everyday settings. Here's an activity to try with your child that incorporates many language skills!

**This week's activity for your child: Making green pudding!** This is something we would have done for St. Patrick's Day or to celebrate the green of spring here at school. All this recipe takes is a box of instant pudding, some milk, and some food coloring. If you don't have access to these items, feel free to substitute this idea with any recipe you have the materials for. Even something as simple as pouring cereal for breakfast can be an opportunity to work on language skills!

**Vocabulary that may be used:** *green, food coloring, milk, cold, wet, dry, lumpy, smooth, yummy, delicious, pour, stir, scoop, open, close, squeeze, cup, spoon, bowl, whisk, help, vanilla, pudding, box, bag, spilled, table, etc..*

**Ways to elicit language during this activity:**

1. **Describing:** Describe what you see, what you are doing, and what things are happening around you (We are making green pudding. The milk is cold. I like vanilla pudding. Oh no, the milk splashed! We can wipe it with a towel.)
2. **Answering questions:** (What do we need? Is the pudding red? How many scoops do you want? )
3. **Sequences:** (What do we do next? - from pouring the milk, to stirring the mixture, to putting in the fridge)
4. **Mistakes!!** Life is full of little mistakes, but that's okay because they provide a great opportunity to model language in a natural way! (Oh no!! What happened when we stirred? *Wait for response, then offer your idea.* The milk splashed on the table!! The table is wet!! What should we do? *Wait for response, then offer your idea.*)

\*Sometimes your child may not know the answer to a question, may not be able to answer it verbally, or may not know what comes next in a sequence, and that's okay!! What's important in these moments is that **you** model and provide answers to those questions for your child. This helps expose your child to new, different ways to answer that question! Also remember, pointing, gesturing, and looking are all forms of communication too!\*

**Other targets:**

Working on listening for directions to know what comes next.

Working on independence during daily living activities with actions such as stirring and pouring.

Working on vocabulary retention and use in a functional activity!

Working on all your senses—what do you see, hear, smell, touch, taste?