

OCEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 Atlantic Avenue

Ocean City, NJ

0 8 2 2 6

Learning in Disguise

Objective: To learn all of the ways that you can interact with your children by participating in activities that you are already doing and taking note of the academic benefits.

1. Board Games: Family game night is not just a great way to spend time together but also helps to shape your children into focused, creative, patient, collaborative and problem-solving critical thinkers. Break out those games!
 - a. For our youngest learners board games promote:
 - i. Executive functioning
 - ii. Decision-Making
 - iii. Turn-taking
 - iv. Number recognition (subitizing)
 - v. One-to-one correspondence
 - b. For more advanced players board games promote:
 - i. Logic and strategy
 - ii. Focus and Attention
 - iii. Patience
 - iv. Collaboration
 - v. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
 - vi. Resource Management
 - vii. Negotiation and Communication
2. Manipulative Play & Coloring
 - a. Playdough, slime, kinetic sand,
 - i. Enhances fine motor skills
 - ii. Improves writing skills

- iii. Boosts creativity and Imagination
 - iv. Calms the brain
 - v. Develops hand-eye coordination
 - vi. Increases curiosity and knowledge
 - b. [Click here](#) for a homemade playdough recipe!
3. Stem Resources
- a. Legos, Magnatiles, Squigz, Brush blocks,
 - b. Apps: code.org, Crazy Gears, The Robot Factory, Minecraft (creative), Gizmos & Gadgets, Inventioneers, Simple Machines
 - i. Design process
 - ii. Coming up with a plan
 - iii. Trial and error
 - iv. Fine motor skills
 - v. Problem solving
 - vi. Engineering
 - vii. Creativity
 - viii. A sense of accomplishment!
4. Puzzles (word puzzles, game puzzles, puzzle-puzzles!)
- a. Spatial rotation
 - b. Problem solving and perseverance
 - c. Increased IQ
 - d. Improved visual-spatial reasoning
 - e. Improved memory
5. Art
- a. Chalk, bead work, pipe cleaners, cutting, patterning, sewing, weaving, gluing, bracelet making (rubber bands).
 - i. Hand-eye coordination
 - ii. Improved positive emotions
 - iii. Creative thinking and processing
 - iv. Fine motor skills
6. Reading for enjoyment (Family read alouds!)
- a. [Compare and Contrast](#) a Book and the movie version

We hope these ideas empower you as parents and let you know that what you are doing everyday with your children is disguised as learning!

Keep up the great work!

