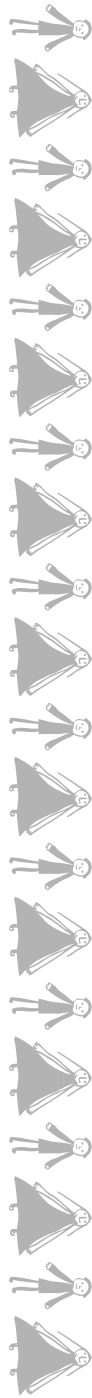


THE RELATIONAL LEARNER



*Children are "hardwired" for enduring attachments (relationships) to other people. The first relationship is with their parents and moves on to possibly grandparents, aunts and uncles, other caregivers, teachers and peers. Meeting the need for enduring attachments is the best way to ensure a healthy development. * Helping children grow through their relationship with others is the place to start.*

*Commission on Children at Risk, 2004 Report



REMEMBER

the child needs you to

- encourage the positive way in which he engages in play with you and others
- plan opportunities to experience learning together (through learning centers)
- guide him in cooperative play as he grows older
- use Bible verses to affirm getting along with others
- interact with her as she plays
- give opportunities for him to talk and learn from other children



The relational child may exhibit

THE RELATIONAL CHILD MAY ENJOY

TEACHERS CAN ENCOURAGE LEARNING BY

- **care for others**
- **an understanding of others' feelings**
- **leadership skills**
- **good communication skills**
- **a preference for cooperative play**

- *looking at the Bible with a teacher*
- *playing out community helpers*
- *preparing food for others*
- *taking turns with push or pull toys*
- *working a puzzle with another friend*
- *building with blocks as a teacher watches*
- *rolling a ball back and forth to a friend*
- *pretending to cook*
- *collecting fruit to give to a church helper*
- *talking on the telephone*
- *finding toys under a blanket*
- *talking about what they are doing at the moment*
- *negotiate dramatic play with others*
- *talking about a Bible person's feelings*
- *interviewing a classroom visitor*
- *listing ways to solve a problem*
- *wearing dress-up clothes*
- *make a mural on a large sheet of paper with friends*
- *playing in a group in a Bible learning center*
- *"reading" books by describing action on the pages*
- *playing a matching game together*
- *playing with the doll; using baby care items to care for the doll*
- *interacting with the teacher as the child directs a play experience*
- *discussing answers to an open-ended question*
- *helping to prepare snack for the children in the room*
- *participating in a group game during group time*



making sure the learning environment encourages cooperative play



planning activities that involving helping others



encouraging children to work together to negotiate and solve problems



creating a learning environment that encourages interaction with teachers and other children



asking questions that allow children to discuss their ideas with each other

