



# Beyond Bubbles and Blocks:

## Tips for MA EI Home Visitors



### Did you know?

The Early Intervention Training Center has a new grab and go up on our website (<http://www.eitrainingcenter.org/professional-development/training-materials>). This grab and go, created by students at UMASS Amherst, focuses on parent learning styles and how different learning styles impact the ways parents process the information you are giving them. Individuals, supervisors, and programs can use this grab and go as a resource to learn more about parent learning styles and why this is relevant to Early Intervention.

#### TRUCE website:

- Resources for encouraging child-directed, free play
- Suggestions for choosing appropriate toys
- Current research and information about the impact of media and technology on young children

### Tips and Techniques...

Technology is a part of our society today and children are being impacted by technology, media, and marketing younger and younger. TRUCE (Teachers Resisting Unhealthy Children's Entertainment) is an organization of educators who prepare materials to support parents and other educators to better understand the importance of play and the negative impact that media and marketing can have on children's play, learning, and behavior. Their website (<http://www.truceteachers.org/>) has

lots of resources providers can use to educate and empower families. Including handouts with different seasonal play plans, current research, as well as a play and toy guide that helps understand the importance of play and activities that could be done at home by parents broken up by age range. Many of their materials are translated into other languages and are intended to be used when working with parents to help them better understand the importance of play and how to easily incorporate it into their routine rather than using or relying on screen time.

### Evaluation/ Assessment tip



Have you ever noticed how many built in visual prompts there are in the BDI-2 item instructions?

These built in prompts are intentionally part of the item instructions for examiners when administering the BDI-2. For example, self-concept and social role 8 (SR8) instructs you to point to the reflection in the mirror as you ask "Who is that?" This instruction is a visual prompt that you should give children as you administer the item so they can better understand exactly what you are asking of them. The BDI-2 intentionally offers auditory and visual prompts for all children. For Perception and Concepts 7 (PC7) the examiner is instructed to point to the forms and then to the appropriate holes as you instruct the child to put the forms back in the form board by saying "Now you put them back. You do it." Not using these item instructions can make the test harder for some children and should be used to ensure that all children are experiencing the test in the same way.

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