HIDE AND SEEK WITH PUPPETS

ENGINEERING: INVESTIGATION

Every child is different. Do what works best for encouraging each child's exploration of this suggested activity.

OBJECTIVE OF THIS INVESTIGATION:

Given an item, children will determine the best hiding spot for the item so that a puppet can't find it.

VOCABULARY:

- problem
- solution

MATERIALS:

- one item for children to hide (e.g., a pretend orange or other smaller item)
- a puppet or stuffed animal to hide the item from
- large boxes and small boxes
- large and small bowls
- scarves and blankets

PROGRESSION STEPS (ENGINEERING: INVESTIGATION):

Visit **STEMIE Learning Trajectories** for details
- Trial and Error Investigator

THIS INVESTIGATION:

- Introduce the puppet and activity to children.
    "Oh no! I have a problem. This puppet wants to eat my orange! Can you use these materials to hide the orange so she doesn't eat it?"
- Provide boxes, sheets, or any other materials children can easily hold and manipulate to hide the item.
- As children attempt to hide the orange (even if not fully), narrate their problem-solving.
    "Ohhhh! I see you're using the box to hide the orange. Good idea!"
- Once children have hidden the item, bring Ms. Moose out and have her pretend to look for the orange.
    "Let's see if Ms. Moose can find the orange."
- If children problem-solved hiding the orange, reinforce their problem solving:
    "Wow! Ms. Moose can't find the orange anywhere. You hid it so well. She can't see it!
- If children didn't fully hide the orange, help scaffold fixing the problem.
    "Hmm, Ms. Moose sees a little bit of orange peeking out from the box. The orange isn't hidden all the way. Let's try a new spot that's bigger and can cover the whole orange!"
- Children can reveal their hiding spots at the end and play again.

ADAPTATIONS:

See **A Guide to Adaptations** for general ideas and strategies

Materials:
- Provide fewer materials to use to hide the item.
- Provide two materials (one that will work and one that won't) for children to test hiding their item with/in.

HOW TO CONTINUE THIS INVESTIGATION:

- Create other similar problems for children to solve. **"Let's hide this toy from Mom and see if she can find it. Where can we put it, so she won't see it?"**