

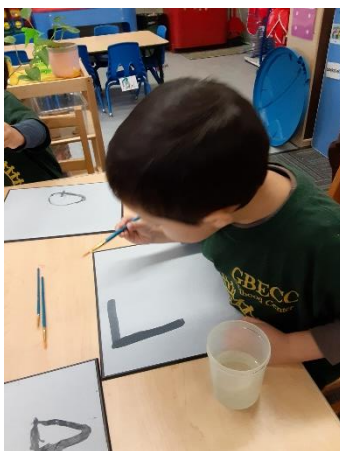
Educational Background

Water play is beneficial for supporting the development of sensory, creativity, and scientific inquiry skills.

Science experiences and scientific inquiry allow children to develop a wide range of skills that affect their holistic development. Our [Water Works](#) exhibit and [programs](#) provide opportunities for children to use their creativity, explore the movement of water, and engage in sensory experiences through water play.



Cognitive Development – Children explore using the scientific method, using critical thinking skills, stimulating their curiosity, and building independence by taking an active role in their learning.



Language Development – Science inquiry provides opportunities to learn new vocabulary, ask questions and seek information, and engage in conversations about what they are observing and doing.



Motor Skills – Children practice grasping and holding materials in their hand and fingers to explore objects and tools such as pipettes, water droppers, and other manipulatives.

Planting a Seed: A few points from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) to keep in mind when your child is engaging in water play:

- Value your child's questions and find the answers together.
- Sometimes exploration is messy, so keep in mind children are likely to get dirty when they explore materials.
- Learn from mistakes together.
- Invite curiosity and show the value in exploration, by asking questions that begin "*I wonder why...?*"
- Use items you have at home to experiment and explore.