































RATIONALE

The purpose of this lesson is to teach the children about labels and principles of spatial orientation; to help the children learn to search carefully; to strengthen self-regulation capabilities; and to help the children understand and adapt to new rules.

MAIN ACTIVITY

a. Display the six pages of pictures for Lessons 18-19. Discuss each picture, eliciting or providing appropriate labels and descriptions. Each picture shows a child in a standing or sitting position in relation to a chair. Compare the pictures, and elicit how they were used to play Can You Do What I Do?

b. Tell the children that these pictures will be used to play a new game, called Copy Cat. Systematically explain the rules: one child is chosen to be "it" first, and he or she comes to the front of the group where the pictures are displayed. A designated chair is used to represent the chair in the pictures. The other children turn around so that they are sitting with their backs to "it." Then "it" mentally selects a picture and assumes the appropriate position in relation to the designated chair. If any child has difficulty assuming the pictured position, help him or her by referring back to the picture as necessary. When "it" is ready, he or she asks, "Which picture looks like me?" The other children turn around and raise their hands if they think they know which of the pictures the child is matching. The teacher calls on a child to answer, and the one who identifies the correct picture becomes "it." Ask the children how they know which is the correct picture. (We looked carefully.)

c. If it seems necessary, demonstrate the game with the help of a couple of children or teachers. Play Copy Cat, reviewing the steps, rules, and labels as necessary. Discuss any difficulties that arise and how they might be fixed or avoided. Allow each child to have at least one turn as "it."

VARIATION

Play Copy Cat as described, but have the child describe "its" position before he or she selects the picture.

Cognitive Functions

- 1. GATHERING CLEAR AND COMPLETE INFORMATION
- 2. Using spatial referents
- 3. SELF-REGULATING

GENERALIZING ACTIVITY

Send the children on a search for hidden objects in the room. Give them precise instructions as to where the objects are and tell them to listen and look carefully so that they will find the correct objects.

BRIDGING DISCUSSION

Discuss how important it is to look carefully when playing Copy Cat, and elicit other times when looking carefully is helpful. Discuss examples such as when choosing materials, watching the teacher or the children to learn how to do something, and looking for something that is lost. Discuss other contexts when gathering clear and complete information is important, such as listening carefully when playing Fast and Slow with music, and listening carefully to the teacher's instructions.

OTHER BRIDGING DISCUSSION

School:

Home:

Peer group:

Other:

COGNITIVE MASTERY CRITERIA

Each child should be able to model a Copy Cat picture and to select the picture that another child is modeling.