

The PIWI Philosophy



Philosophy Related to Parents



Parent*-child relationships are a critical foundation for early development. Practices that recognize this foundation value the role of parent-child interaction in development. PIWI facilitators collaborate with parent in providing developmentally supportive environments for their children by expanding on families' knowledge and understanding of their children, building on natural interaction styles, and acting on parent preferences. Children's development is enhanced when parents recognize and act on their own important roles in supporting their children's developmental agendas.



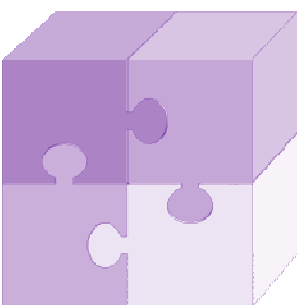
Philosophy Related to Children



Early Development is embedded within significant relationships and contexts of daily routines, and comes about through interactions with others. Opportunities for parent-child play expand on children's strengths as active learners and are based on developmentally and culturally appropriate parent-child activities and interactions. Individual goals identified by parents are blended into parent-child play, and individual adaptations are used to enhance children's ability to engage in their environments.



Philosophy Related to Facilitators



The primary role of the PIWI facilitator is to support and enhance parent-child relationships. Facilitators establish supportive relationships with parents and children by providing meaningful, pleasurable opportunities for parent-child play. Parent-child interactions and play are actively supported by facilitators within the context of PIWI sessions. PIWI sessions are characterized by a spirit of collaboration in which facilitators operate interchangeably but continue to function as resources to one another and to families in relation to their own disciplinary/personal expertise.

** "Parent" refers to any primary caregiver (e.g., parent, grandparent, other relative) with whom the child is likely to establish a long-term attachment relationship. "Facilitator" refers to any staff member who interacts with children and/or families within any service context.*