



Approaches to Learning **Activity for 6 to 12 Months**

String Along

This activity promotes curiosity and problem solving for children. It also gives children experience with the cognitive task of "means-ends."

Materials:

- Hand-size objects
- A 2- to 3-foot-long piece of thick yarn

What to do:

1. Tie the object or toy to one end of the piece of yarn and put the other end in the child's hand.
2. Demonstrate pulling to bring the item closer.
3. Toss the toy out and encourage the child to pull it back.
4. Observe: Does the child persist in trying to pick up the yarn? Does she explore the toy and string? Does she show pleasure when she accomplishes the task?

Variations:

- A. Make several yarn toys so the child can choose which to pull.
- B. Use two objects and pull them in different directions so the child can choose which one to follow.

