

Learning Focus—Exploring Space

This module gives your child experiences in describing the position of objects in relation to other objects and in understanding directional language.

Describe the position of objects

Young children are naturally curious about the world around them. Learning about position and space is an essential prerequisite for understanding geometry.

Using position-specific language (e.g. *above*, *below*, *under*, *over*, *in front of*, *behind*, *inside*, *outside*, *near*, *next to*, *across*) extends children’s geometry vocabulary.



While at the dinner table, ask, “What is near the green beans?” or “Can you tell me what is next to the broccoli?” or “Is the gravy under or over your potatoes?” When you are reading books to your child, ask questions such as, “What is in front of the house?” or “What is beside the dog?”



The ORIGO Big Book: *I Think I'll Go Flying* is used to introduce positional language.

Demonstrate an understanding of directional language

Young children’s understanding of space develops through movements described by words like *forward*, *backward*, *sideways*, and *turning around*. This understanding of direction is the foundation for learning about angles in elementary school.



When you are in a car or bus with your child, ask them to describe the direction of movement. Encourage responses such as, “We are driving forward,” or “We are driving backward.”

Please help by sending the following:

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|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One small plush toy | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic or real flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Spade |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden gloves | |