

GUIDED DISCUSSION PLANS: SAMPLE 1

This beginning-level discussion, which focuses on understanding the *Exploring Water with Young Children* teacher's guide, might be used with teachers who have only participated in the basic workshops. Others like it might follow and focus on other aspects of the teacher's guide.

OBJECTIVES

To better understand the open exploration section of the teacher's guide.

- What is the purpose of open exploration and what does the children's activity look like?
- What does the teacher do during open exploration?

CONTENT

Ask teachers to read the open exploration section of the guide. Begin the meeting by listing key points about open exploration with the teachers.

DOCUMENT MATERIALS

Video cued to vignette 3 or a video created in one of your classrooms.

SAMPLE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Describe: What did you see in this video? How would you describe the children's engagement? What about the teacher's actions?

Analyze: Why do you think the teacher called the children's attention to the speed of the water? How does it exemplify open exploration? What other connections can you see between the video and our list?

Prompt: Can you explain what you mean? How does that connect to the science concepts? How does it encourage inquiry? Or, what is the connection there?

Conclude: What does this mean for your teaching? What do you think you will do differently next week? Why? What do you want to accomplish with your students? How will you do that? How will you know when you have accomplished that? What evidence will you look for?