



**Grow
Play
Learn**



School Readiness at Glendale Public Library

Making Connections

Making Connections involves figuring out what's the same, what's different, and sorting things into categories.

Reinforce That Mistakes Are a Part of Learning

- Making mistakes is part of learning. Instead of immediately trying to fix things, step back, and watch your child troubleshoot the problem. Start with, "Can you think of a better way?" and offer tidbits of support and advice when asked.
- Some of the coolest inventions came from inventors' mistakes, from popsicles to Velcro. Research and talk about the many wonderful "oops" discoveries we use every day. Supply basic materials (popsicle sticks, playdough, etc.) and let your child invent their own cool contraption.

Provide Multiple Uses for Everyday Items

- Play problem-solving games such as scavenger hunts, board games, and word puzzles. Games help kids understand that obstacles are an essential element in life and can be tackled individually or as a team.
- Pick out some everyday items such as a potato masher, a remote control, or even a soap dish. Ask your child to imagine other uses for the items. Encourage them to imagine themselves in different settings. For instance, what could they use the object for if they were at the beach?

Offer New Perspectives

- Everyone sees the world from their own perspective. Teaching children this concept is not easy. Be creative! Take a look at puffy clouds in the sky and ask what they see. Is it a dog, a dragon, maybe a castle? Try this with mountains, rocks, or even splatters of paint.
- Ask your child to take an object and see how many things they can pretend that it is. That big box could be a race car for one child and a fairytale castle to another. Neither choice is right or wrong.



Find a list of books that feature Making Connections at <http://bit.ly/growplaylearn>

Glendale Main
Library
5959 W. Brown St.
Glendale, AZ 85302

Foothills
Library
19055 N. 57th Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85308

Velma Teague
Library
7010 N. 58th Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85301

Heroes Regional
Park Library
6075 N. 83rd Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85303

623-930-3600 • www.glendaleazlibrary.com

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