



Daily Opportunities to Explore Spatial Thinking

Routines

Use spatial language like **in**, **on**, **under**, **up**, and **down** during routines to describe what you or the child are doing.

During diaper changes:

"Your legs are **up**."

During clean-up time:

"Blocks go **in** the basket, and books go **on top** of the table."



Play Time

Explore spatial thinking with physical objects and containers of different sizes.

Describe children's behaviors as they investigate.

"You placed the large ball inside the small box."

Review the [It Fits](#) ([¡Cabe!](#) in Spanish) activity. Visit the [Count Play Explore website](#) for more spatial thinking activities.



Outside Time

Explore spatial thinking through physical play and movement.

Encourage children to engage in outdoor play and describe their movements in space.

"You can do it! Go **down** the slide."

"Look, we can go **inside** the playhouse."

"Let's hide **behind** the tree."



Story Time

Explore spatial thinking through books and storytelling.

Use gestures as you tell the story to communicate the meaning of spatial language.

The Count Play Explore website has books that highlight spatial thinking (for example, [The Birthday Box](#) ([La caja de cumpleaños](#) in Spanish) by Leslie Patricelli). While sharing the book, discuss where objects and characters are in relation to one another.

"The baby is **on top** of the box."

