

What does following the child's lead really mean?

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Summary: Following the child's lead means finding that window into his or her emotional world so you can connect with him or her

- ✓ Here are examples of how you can follow your child's lead:
- 1. Determine what motivates your child
- 2. Use sensory information about your child to maintain attention
- 3. Use affect to keep your child in an activity longer
- 4. Challenge the child without losing his/her attention
- 5. Expand your child's play by changing it up
- 6. Slow down and/or stretch out interactions with your child to support sustained engagement and communication
- 7. Model language in your interactions
- 8. Incorporate body work in the play to sustain alertness & regulation
- 9. Include others such as family members or friends in play
- 10. Join and play alongside your child

Link to this blog for elaboration on each point above: <http://tinyurl.com/zl4xmo2>