

What you can do to help your Grade Rs understand cause and effect:

- Encourage them to speculate by asking questions such as: 'What if . . . ?' and 'What will happen next?'

PRE - SCHOOL CHILDREN OFTEN IMITATE REALITY AS THEY ENGAGE IN IMAGINATIVE AND CREATIVE PLAY

For example, they:

- Want to help adults in domestic activities and repeat these on their own.
- Use one or two items of clothing to extend their imaginative play.
- Can describe at least two characters from familiar stories or television programmes.
- Use fantasy figures in imaginative games.
- Act out parts of stories after hearing them.

What you can do to help your Grade Rs develop their imaginations and creativity:

- Give children smaller versions of brooms, cloths, bowls to use.
- Allow children to play with items of clothing like hats, scarves and shoes.
- Read and discuss stories with children and invite them to provide alternative endings.

CHILDREN DRAW ON THEIR EXPERIENCE TO FIND WAYS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

For example, they:

- Can manage many everyday tasks without guidance.
- Try new ways to complete an activity if unsuccessful at first.

What you can do to help your Grade Rs develop their problem-solving skills:

- Praise them when they try to do a task on their own – e.g. set the table, sort the washing or dress themselves.
- Talk to them about what they are doing and offer suggestions rather than taking over the activity completely.

