



# Schemas

## Patterns of Learning



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## Schemas—Patterns of Play

A schema is a pattern of repeated behaviour in children. Children often have a very strong drive to repeat actions such as:

- Moving things from one place to another.
- Covering things up.
- Putting things in containers.
- Moving in circles.
- Throwing things.



These patterns can often be observed running through their patterns of play and vary between one child and another.



## Some Common Schemas

### Rotational

Round and round.

### Scattering

Wiping objects from surfaces, and tipping/emptying objects out of containers.

### Enveloping


Covering/wrapping self or other objects up.

### Containing

Putting things inside and out of containers.

### Transporting

Moving objects from one place to another.



## Connecting

Joining things together, fixing construction, trains/ track together.

## Trajectory

Throwing/dropping objects, bouncing balls, jumping, pushing cars, drawing vertical/horizontal lines. This is one of the most common schemas.

There are many other different types of schemas, but these are the most common ones.



## Rotation

If your child turns wheels, rolls containers, watches the washing machine spinning, likes to play with vehicles—they may have a 'rotation' schema.



## Containing

If your child places things inside containers/bags/boxes or if they sit inside the boxes/baskets—they may have a 'containment' schema.



## Enveloping

If your child covers him/herself up, wraps objects up, places things in a box and puts on the lid—they may have an 'enveloping' schema.



## Scattering

If your child tips over baskets/containers, wipes objects from surfaces with their hands—they may have a 'scattering' schema.





## Note to Parents

If you notice any of these patterns occurring, speak to your key person and they will be able to give you more information.





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