**Our Shoes Activity Instructions**

# Goals:

To encourage children to investigate, predict, expand their vocabulary, and explain their thinking.

# How-to:

# This activity could be completed during whole group or small group instruction and include a related center experience. Start by playing a quick game of “I Spy Shoes.” Describe a child’s shoes (e.g., pink, no shoelaces, Velcro straps) and let student’s guess whose shoes you are describing. Provide children a chance to be the spy and give the clues.

# Summarize with help from the children your discoveries about everyone’s shoes (e.g., sizes, shapes, color, shoe laces, straps, Velcro).

# Ask for volunteers (8-9 children) to take off their shoes and put them in a pile in the middle of the floor. To accommodate all children who want their shoes to be the focus of discussion, switch shoes in the pile half-way through the discussion.

# Continue the discussion about shoes by asking children questions that raise their thinking. Questions may include the following:

# How many shoes are in the pile? (Remember)

# What are the different colors of our shoes? (Remember)

# What do your shoes look like? (Understand)

# What do your shoes feel like? (Understand)

# What can you do when you wear these shoes? (Apply)

# Why do you wear shoes? (Apply)

# How are these shoes like your shoes? (Analyze)

# How are these shoes different than your shoes? (Analyze)

# Would these shoes be better for playing in the dirt or on the cement? Why? (Evaluate)

# What are your favorite shoes to wear? Why? (Evaluate)

# Create a center that includes a variety of shoes and materials for making shoes (e.g., shoe boxes, cartons, Styrofoam, tape, string, cardboard). Tasks students with creating shoes with the materials and involve them in a discussion by asking the following:

# If you could create your new favorite pair of shoes, what would they look like? Show me.

# How can we use these materials to make shoes for ourselves? Show me.

# How can we use the materials to make shoes to keep you warm in the snow? Show me.