

# Play ideas that stimulate the other side of the brain for boys and girls

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## What can we do to help girls learn in our centres:

**Play physical games to promote gross motor skills.**

**Have digital cameras around and take pictures of girls being successful at tasks.**



**Use water and sand tables to promote science and spatial awareness. (i.e., Ask girls to predict how many pails of water will fill this bigger pail?)**

**Use lots of floor and table puzzles to foster perceptual learning.**



**Form task groups and teams assigned to girls to promote leadership roles and negotiation skills.**

**Use manipulative materials to teach math.**

**Verbally encourage the hidden high energy of the quieter girls.**



## What can we do to help boys learn in our centres:

**Use beadwork, cutting playdough snakes and other manipulative to promote fine motor development.**

**Place books on shelves all around the room so boys get familiar with their use.**

**Make lessons experiential and kinaesthetic.**

**Keep verbal instruction to a minimum- no more than one minute.**

**Personalize the student's desk, coat rack, and cubby to increase his sense of attachment.**

**Use male mentors as role models.**



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Source: Gurian M., 2011, *Boys and Girls Learn Differently A Guide for Teachers and Parents*, Jossey-Bass. San Francisco CA.

Images: Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson, 1985