



Adults can adjust an activity to make it easier or more challenging for a child until they are teaching in “the zone.”

Adults can nurture a child’s emerging abilities by observing and quickly analyzing how to provide support. It is part of differentiated instruction and teaching to meet each child’s unique needs.

Upward Scaffolding Strategies

- Minimal:** **Link or Generalize**
 - Ask the child about their own experiences or an idea with the topic
- Moderate:** **Predict or Define**
 - Ask for a prediction on what could happen next
 - Ask the child to provide a definition or purpose for the item
- Intense** **Cause/effect, justification or problem solving**
 - Ask child to explain the situation, why it occurred or how to resolve it

Downward Scaffolding Strategies

- Minimal:** **Reduce choices**
 - Ask child an “either/or” question
 - Make answers concrete
- Moderate:** **Cloze procedure**
 - Provide a portion of the answer (word) to prompt the correct response
- Intense:** **Repeat after me**
 - Provide the whole answer, then prompt the child to repeat the answer



Correct answer?
Challenge the child



Incorrect answer?
Simplify for child