Why does my child sometimes continually repeat the same actions when they play?

Young children benefit from opportunities to repeat and practise different actions. This helps their brain development and learning. For example, actions of up and down, going from side to side and rotating supports early writing development.

It's possible your wee one is engaging in what's called...

**Schematic Play**

This happens when babies, toddlers and young children repeat actions or behaviours to explore the world around them and find out how things work. There are many kinds of schemas...

**Enveloping schema**
- Children show an interest in enclosed spaces.
- They construct fences and barricades for themselves or their toys.

**Settling schema**
- Children enjoy repeatedly carrying things around from place to place.

**Connecting schemas**
- Children enjoy repeatedly carrying things around from place to place.
- They like to join items together.

**Rotation schema**
- Children like to turn things around.

**Organisation schema**
- Children like to put things back to front to again.
- They like to thread and insert.

**Covering schema**
- Children like to cover things with other items.

**Enlarging schema**
- Children like to enlarge things from a different view.

Parentzone Scotland

Fogham Alba

Based on a text by Stellalouis