



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 2 | Day 1

STEAM

We are scientists during the activity, *Drop in the Bucket*. We observed the motion of objects that are dropped and, with adult support, uses our observations as clues to make predictions about whether objects would drop or float in the air when released. While participating in this activity, children ask familiar adults for help when encountering difficult tasks or situations. This supports the child's concept of self and helps the child to develop relationships with adults.



Physical Development

Playing Can You Catch Me? in the yard with our teacher was a lot of fun! We enjoyed this activity along with Other Outdoor Experiences as we used our bodies to explore our environment while learning to positively interact and create bonds with our teacher and peers. Playing catch is fun but it also helps us develop our motor control skills and develop our large leg muscles as we run. As we ran together, we practiced our balance and coordination when we changed speed and directions with minimal falling.



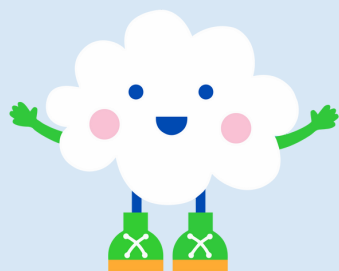
Language & Literacy

During group today, we used our *Felt Board* to read the story *5 Little Monkeys*. This activity allowed us to explore the language through books and helped us recognize patterns in the story as we developed our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. *Five Little Monkeys* develops our ability to learn and repeat a simple chant and our fine motor skills were developed when we manipulated the felt pieces. As we actively listened to and imitated words in a familiar chant, we developed early phonological awareness.



Music & Movement

We danced with our teddy bears to "Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear Turn Around" today. This song enhances our ability to attend to sounds in music and lyrics, as well as developing our attention and focus so we can watch our teacher follow the simple commands in the song and try out a few for ourselves. As we dance, we are also using our large muscles and gross motor skills. As we helped our teddies get ready for bed, we learned to show empathy by expressing care and concern for others. Dancing also helps us improve our balance and coordination as we move together within a group.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 2 | Day 2

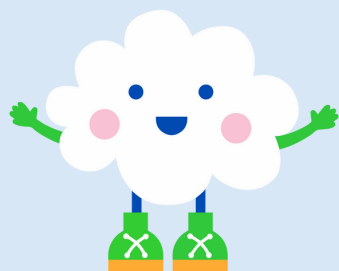


Physical Development

Keen attention was required for us to *Lace Colanders* today. It required attention to detail and perseverance so that we could get pipe cleaners through the holes in the colander. Doing this also develops our fine motor skills and pincer grasp. It took precise and higher-level, hand-eye coordination, which helped us develop those skills! We gained confidence in our ability to complete tasks and problem-solve while having fun! This is a great activity to do at home, just grab a calendar or strainer and some yarn or string!

STEAM

Painting with Water was exciting and such a new experience! It was an activity that gave us the opportunity to be creative in an outdoor setting while teaching us the science of cause and effect as we observed evidence of evaporation. It's here now, and then...it is gone! That's what happens when water evaporates. We also developed receptive and expressive language while we answered questions and learned new vocabulary!



Music & Movement

We sang and danced to the song *Listen and Move* together today. This song allows us to use prior knowledge and visual cues to respond to directions in a song. It also helps us understand how to expect what comes next in a song by listening to and following cues and patterns in lyrics. Dancing is great exercise and develops our muscles and motor skills. As we practiced our daily routines with our teacher's support we used visual cues about expected behavior as we being to understand expectations and practice demonstrating self-control.



Language & Literacy

Did you know that some animals walk, others swim, others fly, and some even slide? We learned about the different ways animals move today when our teacher read *Move*, a story by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page. By listening to our teacher read to us, we explore the language through books, which helps us develop our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. Our teacher asks us questions before, during, and after she reads the story which develops our critical thinking by making us predict and make inferences. These are very important literacy and language skills!



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 2 | Day 3

STEAM

We mixed *Squishy Bags* of paint today. This activity enhanced our visual and tactile sensory skills while teaching us about primary and secondary colors. Measuring and mixing paint to create secondary colors helped us to understand mixtures through math and science, and helped develop our cognitive thinking. Using our hands and fingers to mix develops our small hand muscles and hand-eye coordination! Making new colors feels like magic but it's actually science! Ask me what colors I made!



Language & Literacy

Pigs, cows, sheep and ducks, and so many other animals live in barnyards! We learned that when our teacher read *Barnyard Dance* in class today. This activity allowed us to explore the language through books. It also helped us recognize patterns in a story and to develop our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. We also developed our sense of self as we, with our teacher's help, selected our preferred or not preferred animals. Ask what my favorite barnyard animal was!



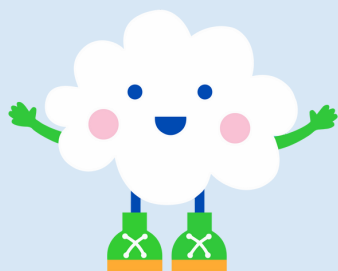
Physical Development

Colors, colors everywhere! It was a colorful day as I got to celebrate *Colorful Me!* Our teacher traced our silhouettes and then we got to use all kinds of different colored crayons to color in our silhouettes. During this activity, we used our hands and fingers to hold a crayon and move it across the paper while lying on our stomachs. We practiced holding our crayon the prior way as we used our pincer grasp to hold the crayon, also developing our fine motor skills. We were also presented with an opportunity to manage our impulses and follow a sequence of simple directions



Music & Movement

We helped our animals dance to the 'Barnyard Dance' book, now it's our turn to dance with the animals! This activity provided us with the opportunity to sing a song from the country music genre called *Don't Rock the Jukebox* as we used egg shakers to move like different animals. While participating in this activity we showed an understanding of location and body position as we maintained our balance and coordination within a group. We also showed motivation and eagerness to participate as we gained an understanding of animals and their sounds and movements during this activity





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 2 | Day 4



Language & Literacy

“*Hands Are Not for Hitting*” by Martine Agassi is a great book! We were able to connect to real life through the story and learned new vocabulary as we heard about all the things that hands can do, and what we don’t do with them (such as hit other people). This gave us the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of our community and gain an emerging awareness of others. During this activity, we demonstrated an understanding of our community and an emerging awareness of others’ cultures and ethnicity.



Physical Development

We engaged in *Little Yoga* today! Many of us tried the different poses that we saw in the book, “*Little Yoga: A Toddler’s First Book of Yoga*” by Martina Selway and Rebecca Whitford. We maintained our balance and posture when moving from one position to another, which challenged our gross motor skills. Participating in daily routines and activities helps us to develop self-control. We also developed our balance and coordination as we explored, recognized, and demonstrated spatial relationships between objects.

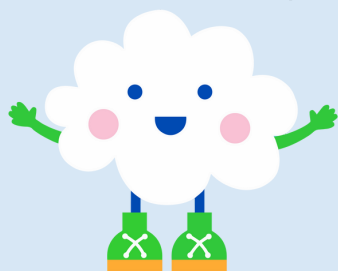


Music & Movement

We listened to and participated in a *Good Morning Song* to welcome and express care for our peers. Learning and singing songs help us to develop early phonological awareness, which means we can begin to discriminate the sounds of language. With direct adult instruction, we began to understand the classroom routines and daily rituals as we participated in activities with our teacher and peers. This supports the development of self-regulation as well as our sense of self with adults and peers. While we listen and dance to the song, we are using perceptual information to guide our motions and interactions. Dancing strengthens and develops our muscles as well as our coordination, it is an excellent form of exercise and teaches us kinesthetic memory.

STEAM

Playing *Duplo Building and Bowling* was so much fun! we demonstrated an understanding of simple tools, in this case, paper towel tubes, and their usefulness in designing, crafting, and constructing structures or solving problems. As we freely built with blocks, and paper towel tubes, we likely experienced a sense of competence and an awareness of our emerging skills and abilities. Encouraging young children to stay within their building space (“tape spot”) and clean up when the timer rings, provides opportunities for them to follow simple rules in a group setting and supports self-control and peer relationships.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 2 | Day 5



Music & Movement

We pretended to be ants during the activity *The Ants Go Marching Around the Classroom*. We used sensory input and body awareness to understand how to interact with people and objects and we recognized simple classroom landmarks. With direct adult instruction, we began to understand the classroom environment and routines. Having a sense of the learning area locations helps us to see the classroom's environment's predictability and to feel secure as a result, this provides a basis for the development of self-regulation.

STEAM

During an art activity today, we practiced saying, *I Need More*, Please using our words and/or sign language. We worked our fine finger muscles to scrunch tissue paper into little balls and glue them onto the paper which allowed us to explore cause and effect. As we began to communicate needs, opinions, ideas, and preferences as we request materials we would like to use in their open-ended artistic creation which helps us develop our sense of self.



Physical Development

We learned a lot during the activity, *Block Basics: I Can Build and Clean Up*. We sorted by size and adjusted the use of our hands, arms, and fingers and used hand-eye coordination as we built with and organized blocks. We used the skills we learned yesterday and expanded on them to sort the toys. Encouraging young children to stay within their building space ("tape spot") and clean up when the timer rings provides opportunities for them to follow simple rules in a group setting and supports self-control and peer relationships.



Language & Literacy

We learned all about *Our Class Schedule* today. Our teacher made a visual schedule using many pictures of us that were taken last week. The pictures were placed in the order that we do things during the day so that we can begin to understand the structure of our schedule. This helps us to understand the passage of time and how events are related. We, as are understanding our classroom routines and daily rituals, helps us to see the schedule's predictability and to feel secure as a result. This provides a basis for the development of self-regulation and supports our developing sense of self.

