



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 4 | Day 1

STEAM

We Colored Rice and experienced a chemical reaction while observing cause and effect. We used our creativity to increase our understanding of math skills while we measured ingredients using tools such as measuring cups and spoons, to paint the rice. When we make something change color, we gain an understanding of science, and when our teacher asks us questions and we talk about what we are doing, we engage in descriptive language and gain new vocabulary. Ask me what colors we made!



Physical Development

We played with sand and we discovered *I Can Use the Sandbox Tools!* We explored using shovels, buckets, and other tools. Sand play promotes physical development by using large muscle skills to develop as we dig, rake, etc. Pouring, scooping and sifting help us with our hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills, as well as our visual perception. This type of sensory activity also promotes social skills and enhances our communication development. Ask what I made while playing in the sand and who played with me!



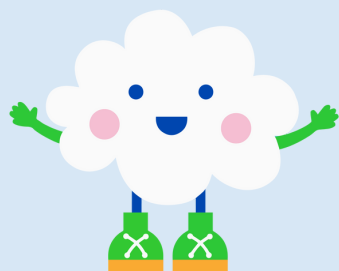
Language & Literacy

I did it! I'm an Illustrator! The book "Art" by Patrick McDonald was such a great way to attend to rhyming words, while at the same time learning about art and how we are all capable to make it! Squiggles, lines, blobs, or dots can all make works of art. As the teacher reads to us, it also helps us recognize patterns in the environment through language. We are also provided the opportunity to ask and answer questions about the story which develops our cognitive and language abilities. After reading the story, we created our own illustrations using a variety of art materials, giving us the opportunity to express ourselves creatively.



Music & Movement

Is This You? We listened and moved to a very fun song to sing and dance called "I Can Move My Body Like Anything" by Jack Hartman. Did you know that when we dance, we are learning how to move our bodies to the rhythm of music, and we use and develop our spatial awareness skills? Dancing also gives us the opportunity to use our large muscles and gross motor skills. Singing provides the opportunity to attend to sounds in music and lyrics, as well as helps us understand what comes next following cues and patterns in a song.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 4 | Day 2



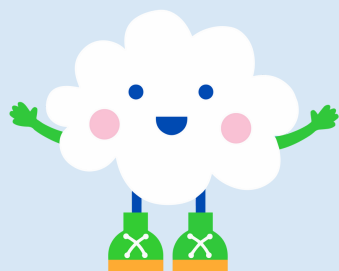
Physical Development

We made our own musical instruments! As we *Made Shakers* we developed our hand-eye coordination as well as our gross motor skills when we held a funnel and poured the rice we colored yesterday into a plastic bottle. We had to use a lot of concentration and focus! Shaking our music bottles was a great way to exercise our muscles and bodies in a creative and exciting way. With our teacher's help, we continued learning about safe and unsafe actions while working with uncooked rice to make the shakers.



Music & Movement

Open, Shut Them is such a fun and rhythmic song. We enjoyed learning the song with our friends and teacher! Engaging in this activity as a group helped us create a good sense of community and developed our social skills. Learning lyrics to a song allows us to use and enhance our memory skills while attending and repeating phrases and rhymes from the song. When our teacher shows us the written lyrics for us to follow it also develops our understanding of reading and how it is done from right to left.



STEAM

We connected the story “Mouse Paint” we read earlier to create *Mouse Paintings* using finger paints. This activity gave us a full sensory experience that helped us improve our understanding of our 5 senses. We each made our fingerprints on a giant piece of paper and enjoyed the freedom to express ourselves creatively by painting anything we imagined. As we shared the space we were painting on, we were developing our spatial awareness. Finger painting also allows us to explore our environment and curiosity through art. We also had the chance to develop our language skills by answering questions from our teacher and describing our art.



Language & Literacy

Did you know that if you mix colors together you get a new color? We learned that today when our teacher read the book “*Mouse Paint*” to us. The story reinforced our knowledge of colors and taught us how primary colors mixed together make secondary colors! When we listen to stories, we are bettering our auditory skills, and enhancing our comprehension through literature, as well as our expressive and descriptive language when we talk about the story. As we connected previous experiences with the current reading activity we developed a sense of ourselves as part of a group which increased our sense of self with others.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 4 | Day 3

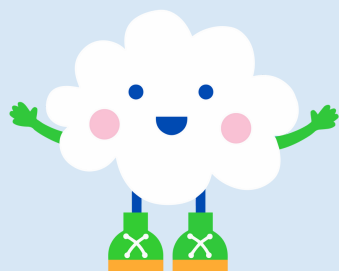
STEAM

We pretended to be city planners today and created a city! To *Create a City*, we needed to use critical thinking and decision-making skills so we could decide what places to include and what we were missing. Also, spatial awareness and shape recognition were very important for this task. We also had to use attention to detail and attend to the shapes and movements of objects to use blocks to create buildings and place cars and other vehicles in the city. The experience allowed us to work together for a common cause and develop our social-emotional skills.



Physical Development

Have you ever done an art piece by *Spray Painting*? We did that today and had so much fun! We increased our gross motor abilities by reaching, pointing, grasping, and squeezing the spray bottles to spray paint, while at the same time strengthening our large arm muscles and small hand muscles. We were given the opportunity to express ourselves creatively and use our expressive and descriptive language while describing our artwork and how it made us feel.



Language & Literacy

During group today, we used our *Felt Board* to reread the story *Mouse Paint*. This activity allowed us to interactively explore language through books. It also helped us recognize patterns in the story as we developed our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. We had the opportunity to develop our recall memory as we recreated the story we read yesterday and worked on our fine motor skills when we grasped the felt pieces for the board. As we answered questions and discussed the story, we had the opportunity to develop descriptive and expressive language. It was a fun and different way for us to continue learning about colors and experiment with literature in a different way.



Music & Movement

We learned through movement during our activity, *Shaking to the Beat*. This activity will provide children the opportunity to develop coordination skills and promote crossing the midline movements as they used egg shakers to move to the beat of music. While actively engaging in this fun activity, we developed an awareness of beat and tempo by using the egg shakers. We also developed spatial awareness as we maneuvered around furniture with our friends. During this activity, we engaged in one-to-one correspondence while shaking the egg shakers in time with the beat. We developed an awareness of the change of beat in different music as we participated in this activity.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 4 | Day 4



Physical Development

Are You Thirsty? We made a connection between the physical sign of thirst and the need to drink when feeling thirsty. We learned that being hydrated is when you drink enough water and when you are hydrated you are helping your body work properly. As we learned the signs of thirst and respond to them, we begin to develop a sense of competence that supports emerging self-awareness.



Music & Movement

We played music from *A Kids World Party* and were able to experience music from other countries. We danced to a beat of a different drum and used our egg shakers to dance and follow the beat and rhythm of the music. This allowed us to bond with our classmates while expressing ourselves creatively. As we all clapped and stomped to the song, we worked on developing our large muscles and gross motor skills. Let's have a dance party when we get home!

STEAM

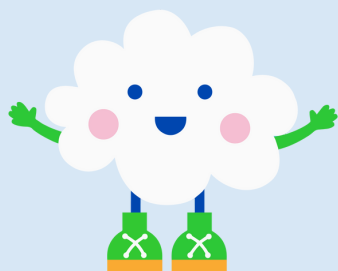
We conducted *Sandy Discoveries* we practiced making and identifying what makes a pattern using sand. This activity provided us with the opportunity to use tools and fingers to scoop, pour, dig, and shovel sand as we picked our colored items and combined them into patterns.

We had fun using sand and toys for sensory experiences while engaged in parallel play demonstrating competence and confidence as they communicate with friends to share materials. As we created and started to identify patterns, we developed our mathematical skills by sorting, ordering, and classifying by one disgusting feature.



Language & Literacy

Can you paint and dance at the same time? We can! During our *Color and Move* activity, we listened to music and danced while we painted on the easels. Dancing with my feet, while using my hands to paint, takes a lot of coordination. This activity helped us build attention and focus while controlling our movements. Listening to different patterns and rhythms help us realize that not all language sounds the same. We discussed our work and the music we heard, developing our descriptive and expressive language.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 4 | Day 5



Language & Literacy

We read a wordless picture book today called *Changes, Changes*. We learned that there do not have to be words in a book. We can still follow a story using inference and prediction by looking at pictures. We had a lot of interaction with each other and the teacher while we said what was happening, described what we saw, and predicted what would happen next. This all helped us develop our language, literacy, and listening skills.



Physical Development

Puffy Paint is fun to work with and looks amazing on our works of art! We helped our teacher make the paint using different ingredients that we helped measure and mix, allowing us to use our arm and hand muscles and develop our fine and gross motor skills. We needed to use our hand-eye coordination to squeeze out the paint and make the shapes we desired. As we describe what we are doing, we are engaging in expressive and descriptive language.



Music & Movement

We used the musical instruments we made yesterday to sing *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*. Being able to use the instrument we made ourselves makes us feel accomplished and helps us feel confident in our abilities. Using our instruments to follow the beat of the music and sing at the same time, engages us in early rhythm and instrument development. Dancing and singing as a group enhanced our social-emotional skills and helped us develop positive relationships with our peers.

STEAM

We continued pretending to be city planners as *We Built a City* that we planned out earlier this week. We needed to use critical thinking and decision-making skills so we could decide what places to include and what we were missing. Also, spatial awareness and shape recognition were very important for this task. We also had to use attention to detail and attend to the shapes and movements of objects to use blocks to create buildings and place cars and other vehicles in the city. The experience allowed us to work together for a common cause and develop our social-emotional skills.

