



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 7 | Day 1



Physical Development

So yummy in my tummy, we had so much fun trying some of *Our Favorite Finger Food!* We got to taste-test some of our favorite fruits and vegetables. We learned about nutrition, and how fruits and vegetables can keep us healthy and help our bodies grow big and strong. Children developed their sense of self-awareness by expressing their preferences about the food they liked and disliked. We worked on expanding our vocabulary by naming and identifying the variety of foods we taste tested. Ask me which one was my favorite!



Language & Literacy

Peek-a-boo, I see you! Can you see me? We enjoyed a book called, *"These Hands,"* by Hope Lynne Price and Brain Collier. After reading the book, we took turns holding and exploring it, taking time so we each had a turn to play peek-a-boo. By waiting for our turn with the book, we are learning self-control and how to share with others. When we are exploring the book, we are learning print concepts and developing our hand-eye coordination as we turn the pages. Reading is so much fun!

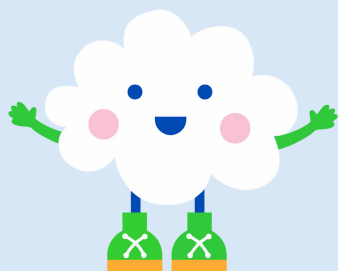


Music & Movement

I will be looking out for birds on our doorstep after listening and dancing to Bob Marley's song *Three Little Birds!* This song gave us an appreciation for different genres of music. We also used rhythm sticks to follow the beat and tempo of the song. This activity helped us focus and pay attention to movements and oral directions from the teacher as she helped us follow the beat, and spoke to us about the artist. Singing provides the opportunity to attend to sounds in music and lyrics, as well as helps us understand what comes next following cues and patters in a song.

STEAM

Teamwork makes everything easier! Today, we worked with blocks and people in *Building Together*. We used both our large and fine motor skills to construct buildings, roads, and many other things out of blocks. When building with blocks and constructing simple structures, children are starting to learn the concepts of stability and motion. They also begin to demonstrate an understanding of simple tools and machines including their usefulness in designing, crafting, and constructing structures as well as problem-solving skills. When working with and alongside peers children are provided with an opportunity to support peer relationships.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 7 | Day 2



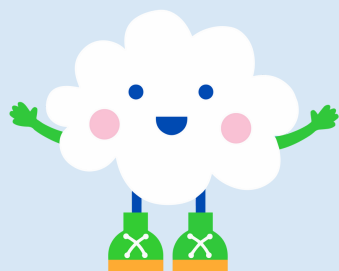
Music & Movement

Bamba!! We danced to "La Bamba," a song made famous by Richie Valens, whom we read a story about today. It's a song in Spanish, and so fun to dance to! Dancing and singing to La Bamba gave us the opportunity to appreciate music in a different language. 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 as we try to stay in place and not bump into those around us.



Physical Development

We worked together to create *Group Mosaic Art*; it was so much fun! We each painted a part of what became a mosaic artwork once we put all the pieces together. It was a great way to experience and participate in teamwork. Painting helps us develop our motor skills, spatial awareness, and hand-eye coordination. This experience supported our recognition and use of basic vocabulary associated with emotions as we explored our abilities and develop a sense of competence and positive self-awareness.



STEAM

We expanded our mathematical knowledge and explored with simple tools in *Playdough Exploration*. We first took our large ball of playdough and divided it evenly between our friends, counting as we passed out our playdough and tools. As children are beginning to understand numbers and quantities, they may only be able to count to 2 and may not understand the quantity it represents. However, it is important to find times though out the day to count small numbers of objects to help reinforce these early mathematical skills.



Language & Literacy

Vamonos: Havana is the book our teacher read to us today. This story helped us explore Havana, the capital of Cuba, through illustrations and words that taught us about the city in English and Spanish. By listening to our teacher read to us we explore language through books, it also helps us develop our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. This book taught us that there are books in other languages than our own, and we had the chance to hear and learn a few words in Spanish, the national language of Cuba. Our teacher asks us questions during and after she reads that develop our critical thinking by making us predict and draw conclusions about the story.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 7 | Day 3



Physical Development

Who needs a paint brush? We discovered that we can make our own paint brushes as we did some *Hay Painting!* Our teacher made paintbrushes out of hay and gave us the freedom to express ourselves creatively by painting with them. As we painted, we developed the muscles of our arms and hands and worked on our ability to make controlled purposeful movements. We used expressive and descriptive language and critical thinking to discuss similarities and differences between the hay paint brushes and regular ones.



Music & Movement

Old MacDonald had a Farm EIEIO!! We sang and danced to Old MacDonald, the original version after having heard the Jazz version. It was fun to compare and contrast the different sounds, beats, and tempos of the music. 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 when we try to stay in our place while we move. Dancing also develops and gives us the opportunity to use our large muscles and gross motor skills.

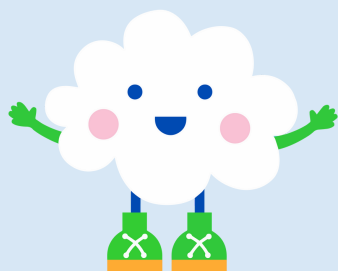


Language & Literacy

With the help and jazz music of Ella Fitzgerald, we completed the felt board today. Our teacher played *Ella Fitzgerald's Jazz* version of the classic *Old MacDonald* song and we followed along putting the animal pieces and singing on the felt board. We got the opportunity to hear a song most of us were familiar with in a different version and genre. Singing and participating in the completion of the felt board helped us realize that language is not only spoken. We also learned to participate in daily routines with adult guidance and instruction which helps us develop self-control.

STEAM

What comes next? Patterns are everywhere in the world around us, today we discovered what a pattern is in *Egg Carton Pattern Play*. We used our egg cartons and attempted to match the color item to the colored sticker on the egg carton. With our teacher's help, we talked about the patterns we were able to create using the two different colors. This helped develop our emergent mathematical skills through matching and sorting. We also had to use our listening ears to follow our teacher's directions, letting us know how the game works.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 7 | Day 4



We got to listen to more of Ella Fitzgerald's music while playing *Ring Around the Rosie*. We first listened to "A-Tisket A-Tasket" and then compared it Ring Around the Rosie, they were the same tune! While singing and moving to the songs, we were able to bond and build positive social interactions, while expressing ourselves creatively. As we held hands and moved in a circle to the song, we worked on developing our large muscles and gross motor skills, as well as balance and coordination.

STEAM

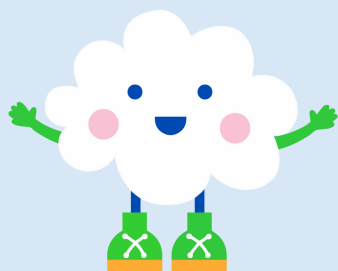
Listen, what do you hear? We had to pay close attention and use our sense of hearing in exploring with our *Magic Bag Sounds*. We had to use our sensory skills, listening, and touching, to match by distinguishing the sounds of each egg. It took great focus to match the pairs of eggs that were the same in sound. Matching helps us classify objects that are grouped by similar traits, in this case, sound and increases our attention to detail. When we hear different sounds when we are out let's try to guess what they are together!



What kind of basket did you make? We listened to Ella Fitzgerald's "A-Tisket A-Tasket" song while we colored and created our own baskets. Listening to music while doing another activity, like coloring, helps us develop multi-tasking skills. Coloring also develops our fine motor muscles as we grasped the crayons while at the same time strengthening our large arm muscles and small hand muscles. We are also developing our hand-eye coordination as we made the scribbles, marks, and drawings on our paper. As we shared the space we were drawing on, we were developing our spatial awareness.



In *Looking at the Lyrics*, we learned all about the amazing singer Ella Fitzgerald when reading the book, "Ella Fitzgerald," by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vergara. This book exposed us to non-fiction and the life of the First Lady of Song! By listening to our teacher read to us we explore language through books, it also helps us develop our comprehension of verbal communication through stories. Our teacher asks us questions during and after she reads that develop our critical thinking by making us predict and make inferences, these are very important literacy and language skill!





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 7 | Day 5

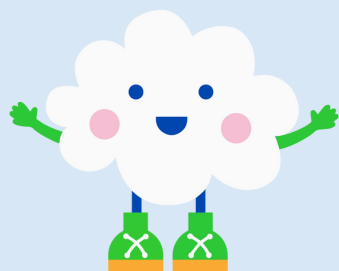
STEAM

We participated in a science experiment, *Ice Melting: Sun vs Shade!* This was a good way to experience cause and effect and observe chemical reactions. This activity gave us the chance to explore the effects of the environment. We placed ice trays in different parts of the yard, some in the shade some under the sun, and observed what happened. We learned about temperature and used patience, focus, and attention skills to observe what happened. We then discussed what we saw building our expressive and descriptive language.



Physical Development

Let's Go to the Market! We had so much fun listening to the song, "Let's Going to the Market" and learning about what foods we find there that are good for us. Learning about health and nutrition at a young age is key to developing and keeping healthy habits later in life. Also, as children begin to show preferences for favorite things such as foods, they continue to develop their sense of self. Ask me what healthy food I discovered today!



Language & Literacy

We enjoyed the *"All You Need is Love"* activity where we listened to a special story and explored the concepts of living and nonliving things in our environment. As we read the book *"All You Need is Love"* by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, we used toy bears and birds to help us understand the characters' actions. We also talked about how the characters in the story showed kindness and made others feel happy, just like we do when we play nicely with our friends. We even used magnifiers to look closely at the faces in the story and discuss how they felt before and after joining a fun parade. It was a great way to learn about our world and practice being kind and caring, just like the characters in the story!



Music & Movement

We had the chance to use the instruments we made previously, which are called maracas, to sing and dance to the salsa song *"Quimbara"* by Celia Cruz. Celia was a famous artist from Cuba, people called her *La Reina de la Salsa*, the *Queen of Salsa*. We continue learning about different genres of music and learn to appreciate them and hear the differences in the beats, tempo, and sometimes even the language. Providing opportunities for us to dance and move alongside one another supports the development of peer relationships!