



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 1



Language & Literacy

The book "*Rainbow Fish*," by Marcus Pfister was so visually and auditorily engaging! As our teacher read to us, we engaged our listening skills and developed our comprehension through texts. As we experience enjoyable reading activities we hear new vocabulary words as we used verbal expressions and gestures to communicate responses. The story teaches us to love ourselves and cherish our differences, and shows us how we are all special in our own way! Tell me one thing you find unique about me.



Physical Development

How much can we *Fill the Bottle*? We learned through plays as we developed our small muscle control and coordination along with coordination of eye and hand movements as we practiced filling a water bottle using pipe cleaners and straws. During this activity, we engaged in parallel play with our friends as we counted how many items we can put into one water bottle to create a shaker. We demonstrated our scientific inquiry skills as we problem-solved by placing items in a water bottle.

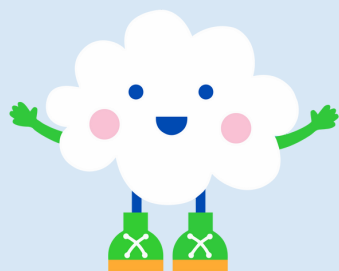


Music & Movement

We learned through music while listening and completing the movements to the song *I Had A Little Turtle*! We had to use our listening skills as we learned the words of a new song and practiced the movements to match our teachers. Singing together helps us identify as part of a group as we took turns responding to rhythmic patterns. Singing and moving during this fun activity, we are able to show our understanding of words through actions as we begin to discriminate sounds of language with our teacher's support. We also used our upper body movements in response to the sounds of words during this activity.

STEAM

We got our creative juices flowing as we create *Pipette Art*. It was challenging to use our fingers to transfer watercolors onto paper while using pipettes, but we did it and this built our fine motor skills and strengthened the muscles in our fingers and hands! During this activity, we used art materials to create original artwork for self-expression and to express our own creativity through this sensory hand on artistic experience. By using a variety of colors and art materials we are independently able to convey ideas creatively, describe our creative work, and learn how to combine materials to create something new. It was fun to explore and investigate the properties of water while learning about a simple scientific tool during this activity.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 2



We love to dance, and today we sang and danced with scarves to “The Best Classical Music - Fall Forest” song. *Fall Forest Dancing* was so colorful to watch all the scarves dancing together and moving in different directions. 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

We continued to learn about forest animals as we created *Our Animal Homes in the Forest*. After listening to the story “Who Lives Here? Forest” we used a variety of materials to create homes for different forest animals. During this activity, we had the opportunity to compare and categorize observable phenomena while engaging in and maintaining positive relationships and interactions with our teachers and friends. As we demonstrated our problem-solving skills, we developed a sense of self as we learned to ask for help when conflict came up during this activity.



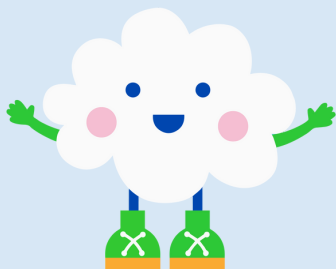
Language & Literacy

Who Lives Here? We had a fun storytime experience as we read the story, “Who Lives Here?” As we read the story we demonstrated an understanding of common words as we pointed out pictures in a book. As we looked through the pictures, we saw many different animals that live in a forest and what type of homes they have. We were encouraged to listen and show interest when our teacher reads the story as we showed interest in this book. During the group activity, we demonstrated an awareness of our own bodies in relation to others and develop our knowledge of related living things and how our environments work.



Physical Development

We had so much fun today coloring with crayons together with our friends as we used *Forest Colors* on butcher paper. We all colored together on a giant sheet of paper that covered the whole table! This helped us develop our fine motor muscles as we grasped the crayons while at the same time strengthening our large arm muscles and small hand muscles. As we shared the space we were drawing on, we were developing our spatial awareness. Coloring is also as great for us to demonstrate our hand-eye coordination as we create and observe visual art forms to develop our artistic expression.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 3

STEAM

We put used our investigation skills as we explored a forest-themed sensory bin as we had a *Forest investigation!* We had to use our senses and other tools to investigate and make comparisons of the forest animals we found in the sensory bin. We talked about the animals we found and where they may live or what they eat. We also controlled our hands and fingers to use a magnifying glass and observe nature items.

Ask me what forest animals I found!



Physical Development

We had a blast while playing outside today as we popped and *Chased Bubbles* with our hands! We engaged in a fun social activity with our peers developing our social-emotional skills and used sensory information and body awareness, to understand how we relate to the environment. We ran, stretched, reached, and jumped to catch and pop the bubbles our teacher was blowing, this developed our locomotor skills and gross motor skills. Bubbles are a fun and inexpensive way to play outside together!



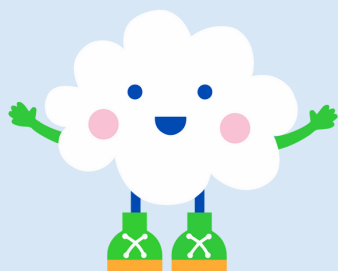
Music & Movement

Once I Saw a Rabbit 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. During this fingerplay, we played alongside other children as we built our attention span for short periods as we made observations, and imitated the movements as we sang. As we explored new situations through dramatic play we practiced following the motions of the finger play, developing our fine motor skills. Learning lyrics to a song allows us to use and enhance our memory skills while attending to and repeating phrases and rhymes from the song.



Language & Literacy

Books Are a Special Treasure for us to enjoy together! We have a lot of books about forest animals and other subjects where we got to choose the one we wanted to read. We explored books about animals, where they live, and how they like to move. We looked at the picture and responded to the teacher's questions. We learned new vocabulary and language that we can use when we are in these situations. 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.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 4



Physical Development

Can you do what I do? It was so exciting to play *Follow the Leader* with our friends today! Playing this type of game gave us the opportunity to use our bodies to explore our environment, exercise our muscles and develop our gross motor skills.

During this activity, we used pattern movements, imitating the leader, as we completed the physical activity for sustained periods of time. We also had to use our critical listening skills and focus our attention to get it right! Let's play Follow the Leader together at home.



Music & Movement

Tony Chestnut was one of the silliest songs I have ever heard! We had so much fun engaging in this new song and we got to move our bodies as we identified and named various body parts in the lyrics. With our teacher's encouragement, we felt more confident about learning different body parts in a fun and exciting way. We also had the opportunity to understand what comes next in the song as we listened and followed the cues and patterns of the new song.



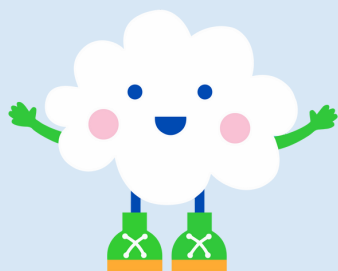
Language & Literacy

We used our *Felt Board* today to learn and portray the song "*In The Forest*." This activity allowed us to interactively explore language through song, it also helped us recognize patterns in the music as we developed our comprehension of verbal communication through song. We 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 what animals live in the forest and how they live there.

STEAM

We read the book "*Maisy's Wonderful Weather Book*" which is about different types of weather and then we did a special Dramatic Play activity where we dressed up and acted out the story.

During this activity, we demonstrated our knowledge related to the dynamic properties of the earth and sky as we used prior knowledge to build new knowledge. As we engaged and persist in dramatic play and used our imagination to take on the characteristics of an animal, person, or a favorite character in the story. Having a dramatic play experience together supports the development of our social skills and relationships with our peers.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 11 | Day 5



Music & Movement

Even though we are little, we can have BIG emotions and feelings. Today, we listened to a song called, “*The Story of My Feelings*.” While we listened and danced to the song we tried to mimic the different emotions. We then used prior knowledge and personal experience to build on the connections and what we can do W the next time we are feeling a big emotion.



Physical Development

We helped our bear friends get to their homes today in a *Sorting Pom Poms* activity. We use and develop emergent mathematical skills when matching and sorting objects, it also develops the skills needed to categorize and count objects. In this activity, we had to sort the pom poms and match them to their homes, and to do that we had to match colors. Our listening skills were augmented as we focused on the explanation of the task at hand. Our confidence grew as did our ability to sort.

STEAM

We enjoyed a *Forest Playdough Invitation*, where we had playdough, natural materials, and different forest animals to create original playdough creations. We used leaves and sticks to make marks and designs on playdough and animals to pretend within the forest we made. This helped develop the small muscles in our hands by rolling, squeezing, and kneading the dough. We also enhanced our fine motor skills by grasping the natural materials we put into the dough. We were able to explore and be curious about the materials we used.



Language & Literacy

We participated with our friends as our teacher read “*The Big Red Barn*” by Margaret Wise Brown during our group storytime today! As we listened and followed along with our teacher, we understand print has meaning and is written from left to right. Using the story, we began to explore everything on a farm from the animals there are, what a weather vane is, and who lives inside the barn. As we are provided an opportunity to listen to a story we demonstrated knowledge related to physical science and used our interest and curiosity to listen for clues and make predictions.

