



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 13 | Day 1



Language & Literacy

What is the first thing we do in the morning? We explored *Morning Rituals* as we engaged in a back-and-forth discussion with our teachers and friends as we discussed what routines we do in the morning. We developed our self-awareness as we began to notice ways in which we are similar and different from our friends' routines.

Acceptance of differences also helps us to develop a positive sense of self with our peers. Learning and reflecting on daily routines also helps me understand the passage of time and how events are related to each other.



Music & Movement

Good morning, good morning, how are you today? We sang our familiar *Good Morning* song to help get ready for our morning and say hello to our friends. Listening to music while following directions, helped us develop our listening skills while attending to communication and language from others while we learn the words to a song.

We also worked to develop our muscles and motor skills as we moved to the beat.

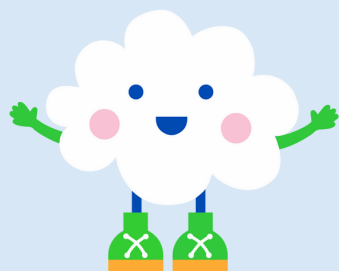
STEAM

We explored two different types of sand, *Dry Sand* and *Wet Sand*, to be able to use new vocabulary associated with its unique properties. As we created using sand we learned to work together with our friends in the same space through cooperation and taking turns. We used materials to mold sand creations allowing for self-expression and the ability to express individual creativity while using our fine motor skills. This activity also engaged us to make observations of the effect of combining different liquid and solid ingredients during this hands-on experience with sand.



Physical Development

Run, Crawl, Jump! We had so much fun exercising in an indoor field experience! We had to problem-solve and share strategies for completing each activity as we demonstrated a sense of satisfaction in our own abilities and the accomplishment of completing each activity successfully. This gross motor group activity helped us learn to be good participants and what we could say to support friends as they also complete each field game. Jumping developed our large motor skills and we joined in sustained cooperative play with our friends as we learned with others to follow the rules.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 13 | Day 2



Physical Development

Let's work together to clean up! We explored with hand brooms and brushes to see how we could clean up a mess during our *Sweeping Up* activity. We used our senses to discover a mess that could be cleaned up as we explored our learning environment to process how to effectively use a broom. This activity also provided us with the opportunity for us to show a sense of satisfaction in our abilities as we accomplished the task of cleaning up a common area.



Language & Literacy

We read a story today about Dinosaurs and how they get ready for bed, called "*How do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*" by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague. This continued our discussion about dressing for bed and the importance of getting ready for bed.

As we were reading the story we answered questions and made predictions for what would come next helping finetune our listening skills. Discussing and practicing self-help skills sets me up for independence as I grow up.

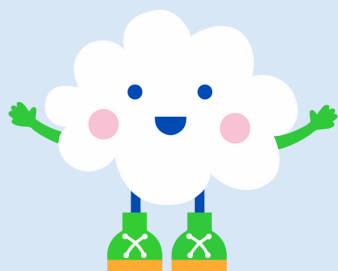


Music & Movement

Pat-A-Cake, pat-a-cake bakers man! It was a fun rhyme we learned with hand movements today about baking a cake. As we engaged in a playful group activity with our teacher and friends during this fun interactive activity we coordinated perceptual information and our fine and gross motor actions as we followed along with the actions of the rhyme. During this activity, we also listened and matched rhythm, volume, and pitch during this activity as we explored the concept of moving to music and rhymes.

STEAM

We read "*Feast for 10*," by Cathryn Falwell which was a great counting book featuring a family shopping for food, preparing dinner, and enjoying a meal together. This story allowed us to explore family dynamics and how different families enjoy a meal together. Reading this book gave me the opportunity to draw conclusions based on listening to the story that mirrors a relatable family enjoying a shared experience. We also used our prior knowledge to build knowledge as we demonstrated an understanding of our family and an emerging awareness of our culture and ethnicity.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 13 | Day 3



Music & Movement

We listened to a fun song called, “*Brush Your Teeth*,” by Raffi! We learned this new song and also practiced an important healthy habit!

Brushing our teeth is very important and it’s really important to brush our teeth using proper techniques so we can do it well. After listening to the song, we discussed why it is something we should do. Having conversations helps us to practice the flow of communication and how to obtain information from the spoken word.



Physical Development

We had so much fun playing *Ball Toss with a Partner*! We worked to coordinate to use our large muscles to perform more complex tasks as we tossed, bounced, and caught a ball with a teammate using purpose, coordination, and accuracy. We used position terms such as about, below, besides, and between, to communicate with our friends about where the ball would go.

As we engaged with the balls, it gave us the opportunity to engage in a physical activity that helped our bodies grow stronger.

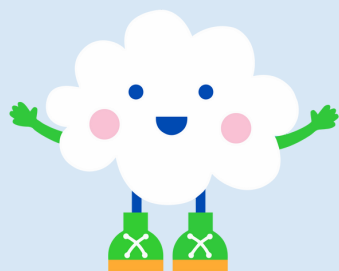
STEAM

How Are We the Same and different? We used gestures and words to discuss observations while exploring with mirrors. Looking in a mirror allowed me to develop knowledge of personal information about facial features through discussions and viewing my own reflections. We identified different characteristics and physically moved to corresponding color pictures, then communicate similarities and differences between ourselves and our classmates. This allowed me to develop my self-awareness as I demonstrated scientific inquiry skills and communicate scientific ideas clearly.



Language & Literacy

We read “*Dinnertime for Chickies*” by Janee Trasler about chickies getting ready for dinner and how they try some foods that are unfamiliar to them. This story helped us learn that it's good to try new foods because sometimes you taste them and find out that it is yummy! This story gave us an opportunity to answer questions and share thoughts about dinnertime and food preferences at home which helps us promote a positive sense of self. This story also helps us learn about healthy choices we can make when eating a well-balanced meal.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 13 | Day 4



Language & Literacy

We re-read the book “Feast for 10,” and then after reading and discussing the book we looked at all food featured in the story. During our *Feast for 10: What I Like* activity we began to consider our own preferences and developed an increased sense of self-awareness. Additionally, this helped us learn new vocabulary related to food and meals as we participated in an enjoyable group activity that supported the development of our peer-to-peer relationships.



Physical Development

Are you Thirsty? After coming in from outside we felt thirsty. Thirsty is when your mouth feels sticky and dry, we learned our bodies need water so we don't feel thirsty. With our teacher, we began to identify feelings of thirst and how to communicate and express wants and needs, developing our sense of self. This activity allowed us to participate in learning about nutrition and bring awareness of the need to protect our environment through conservation and preservation of natural resources.

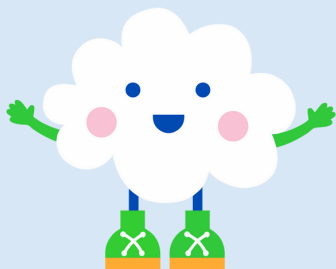
STEAM

We had so much fun participating in *Group Art: Baby Doll T-shirts* where we used food coloring and pipettes to design baby doll t-shirts. As we used simple tools to play and explore with colors in our learning environment as we learned to identify what makes patterns. As we demonstrated scientific inquiry skills and how to communicate scientific ideas clearly we enhanced our cognitive development skills. We also used creativity and our fine motor skills to strategically place the water droplets on the t-shirt. Ask me what colors I used to make my creation!



Music & Movement

One, two, scrub-a-dub-doo, three, four, rinse and pour! See, I can rhyme! Today we were introduced to poems and began to rhyme. As a group, we read the rhyme, *Bathtub Counting Rhyme*, and began to understand the format of poems and how by repetition we can learn things and later recite them. Rhyming teaches us early phonological awareness; this is an important skill so we can discern syllables which are a base needed to read and write. We should practice rhyming together!





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 13 | Day 5

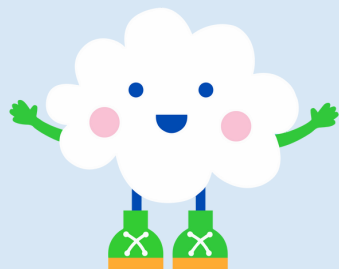


Music & Movement

We learned through singing and movement with our teacher and friends as we sang the song “*If You’re Happy*.” This activity provided us with the opportunity to form connections with our friends as we participated in this creative movement and listening activity. As we participate with our teachers in a playful musical activity, we work on building attachment and a sense of community. As we engaged in the movement to act out the song we gained experience with the correct usage of the pronouns ‘you’ and ‘me.’

STEAM

There are so many colors around us and we loved exploring so many of them! We discovered *Finger Painting* today as we used our imagination and creativity to make a unique work of art! This sensory activity gives us the opportunity to use our fine motor skills and strengthens the large muscles in our hands and arms. While we paint and share the space with our friends, we are gaining spatial awareness as well as expanding our ability to work with others to create a group art piece!



Physical Development

We practiced *Nap Time Yoga* with our teacher today. Our teacher taught us and modeled the different yoga poses for us to try out as we move from standing to a squat to listening to calming music. Yoga gives us the opportunity to demonstrate effective and efficient use of our large muscles for movement and positioning. Doing yoga also helps us develop balance and coordination, and builds attention, focus, and helps us become spatially aware. We also develop our listening skills and our ability to follow directions as we listen to how to do the poses.



Language & Literacy

We read the book “*Happy Hippo, Angry Duck*” with our teacher. This activity provided us with the opportunity to listen to a story and learn about ways to express emotions. As we participated in a group with our friends, we used verbal expressions and gestures to communicate our emotions, feelings, ideas, and preferences using comparative terms to describe expressions as we observed of characters in the book. We also discussed new vocabulary associated with feelings as we observed the animal’s faces to determine feelings of sad, happy, angry, or grumpy.