



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 14| Day 1



Physical Development

We learned through play about different parts of the body as we sang the song “*Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes.*” During this group activity, we practiced demonstrating self-control of our body as we completed a variety of movements. Going from upright to squatting helps us develop our large motor muscles and our core muscles. We also practiced one-to-one correspondence, touching one body part while the name was said as we worked as part of our classroom community as we sang and moved.



Music & Movement

We sang and moved our bodies to “*We Are Family!*” This activity provided us with the opportunity to follow directions in a fun and engaging song while singing, clapping, and moving to music together. Musical activities allow us to practice keeping a beat while we move and coordinate our body as we keep in rhythm with the song. We also practiced language use through singing and learned the meaning of descriptive words like “fast” and “slow” as we explored the concept of moving to music with friends.



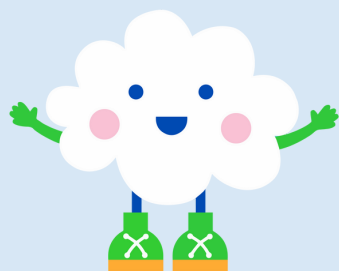
Language & Literacy

We read the book: “*The Little Mouse the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear,*” with our teacher during group. While we participated in this activity, we built a relationship with our teacher, as we recognized the emotions of others, and sustained attention during a story.

As our teacher read, we enjoyed and participated in shared reading and noticed size differences between characters in the book. We also used recall and reasoning skills as we identify characters and different objects in the story during group discussion.

STEAM

1-2-3! We developed our mathematical skills as we created a *Mouse Ladder*. This activity gave us the opportunity to identify that a group of one Duplos is less than a group of two or three Duplos as we built a ladder like a mouse in the story we read. While participating in this activity, we practiced counting objects and practiced one-to-one correspondence, an early mathematical skill. As we engaged in conversations about our work, we practiced turn-taking in conversations with our teacher and friends and used descriptive vocabulary to describe the blocks. Let’s build with blocks at home!





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 14| Day 2



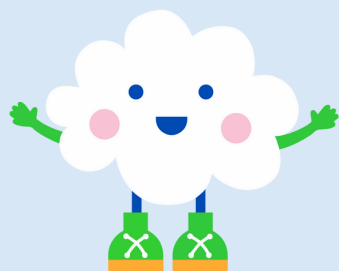
Music & Movement

We're All Amazing!! We made music and moved our bodies as we used egg shakers to listen to the song "We're All Amazing," by London Rhymes. We engaged in musical activity and practiced keeping a beat as we moved and coordinated our body while keeping in rhythm with the song while using egg shakers. During this song, we were able to recognize that some physical characteristics are the same as our friends as we acquire new vocabulary through music.



Physical Development

I Like It! So yummy in my tummy, we had so much fun trying apples and bananas. We got to taste-test some of our favorite fruits as we chose which one we liked best. We learned about nutrition, and how fruits can keep us healthy and help our bodies grow big and strong. We also developed our sense of self-awareness by expressing our preferences about the food we liked and disliked. We worked on expanding our vocabulary by naming and identifying the variety of foods we tested. Ask me which one was my favorite!



STEAM

There was so much to discover as we used our senses and creativity to make *Art for My Family*. Activities where we are engaging our tactile, visual, and even tasting senses, encourage us to use the scientific process to explore and investigate the objects we encounter with and our surroundings which enhances our cognitive skills. This activity provided us with the opportunity to work independently. While doing so, we were given the chance to see ourselves as unique individuals having our own abilities, characteristics, emotions, and interests. We also had the opportunity to demonstrate how to use different art materials to create our own works of art.



Language & Literacy

We enjoyed a shared reading experience as we listened to the story "*Love Makes a Family*." Sharing a story together gives us the opportunity to demonstrate listening skills as we demonstrate comprehension of a story about families. We used verbal expressions and gestures to communicate needs, opinions, ideas, and preferences as we connected what we know with what we hear in the story. Shared rituals and routines provide us security and a sense of identity as well as give us the opportunity to answer questions and share thoughts about our family promoting competence and a positive sense of self.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 14| Day 3



Language & Literacy

We discussed a story with friends during our *Tell Me About It* activity. During this activity, we read the story “The Little Mouse the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear,” as we recalled details of the story to show understanding of common words by pointing to and picking up the object that was named in the story. We described objects in the environment while recognizing that print has meaning as we participated in this small group activity. We also used descriptive words to talk about a picture and combine words into sentences.



Music & Movement

We love to dance, and today we sang and danced with scarves to the song “*We All Laugh in the Same Language*,” by Marla Lewis. Dancing with scarves was such a fun and colorful experience, as we watched 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.



Physical Development

We learned through play as we enjoyed an activity together called *Up the Stairs and Down the Slide*. As we played cooperatively with our teacher and friends, we worked to coordinate our gross motor movements to mimic the movements of going up the slide to learn what is safe and unsafe. By practicing this movement to the song, we are improving our motor development and coordination bringing awareness on how to move our body in shared space. I also developed my self-awareness as I used words and gestures to communicate how to appropriately go up the stairs to go down a slide.

STEAM

I had to put on my thinking cap as we completed the activity *Our Family: Problem-Solving for Baby*. We experimented with familiar objects to solve problems and mimic our teacher who was using physical movements to demonstrate spatial directions. We were presented with baby dolls and different baby doll items as we determined what items to feed and care for our babies appropriately. As we investigate problem-solving assists us in recognizing our skills while confidently exploring unknown outcomes. Experimenting with our teacher’s prompting and support fosters a sense of competence that will encourage us to eagerly take on new challenges.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 14| Day 4



Music & Movement

We moved our bodies during our *Watch Me* activity! This activity provided us the opportunity to follow directions in a fun and engaging song while singing, clapping, and moving. We engaged in musical activity and practiced keeping a beat as we moved and coordinated our body while keeping in rhythm with the song. We also practiced language use through singing and learned the meaning of descriptive words like “fast” and “slow” as we explored the concept of moving to music.



Language & Literacy

We discussed and created during our *Draw It* activity. This drawing activity provided us with the opportunity to engage in parallel play as we made scribbles, marks, and drawings to represent our unique thoughts and ideas. We used our language skills to describe objects in the environment while expressing themselves creatively through drawing as we participated in this small group activity. We also had to use our problem-solving and reasoning skills to respond to questions about our creative artwork.

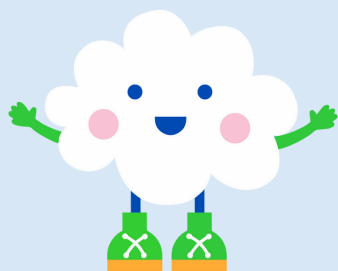
STEAM

We explored through patterning during our *Duplo Patterns* activity. During this activity, we engaged in parallel play with our friends while exploring simple ABAB patterning. We performed simple fine motor skills while we gained an understanding of creating ABAB patterns in different ways, a mathematical skill we will need later. Working in the same space with our friends allows us to engage in conversations about our work, as we practiced turn-taking in conversations and while using descriptive vocabulary to describe the pattern we created. Let's practice patterns the next time we build with blocks together!



Physical Development

We learned through discovery and play during our *Everybody Do This with Pool Noodles* activity. We listened and demonstrated understanding as we engaged with our teachers and friends coordinating perceptual information and gross motor skills. As we received and implemented the instructions given by our teacher, we practiced sustaining our attention and demonstrated persistence. As we participate in the daily routines and classroom rituals as we engage in activities alongside peers. This experience contributes to a child's developing sense of self with others and promotes self-control as children follow directions for play.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 14| Day 5



Language & Literacy

We read the *Book: "Shades of People,"* by Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly with our teacher. This activity provided us with the opportunity to listen to a story about the diversity of the world around us and how beautiful it is. As we answered open-ended questions about the story we were provided with the opportunity to expand and extend our thoughts and ideas. We also gain communications skills as well as descriptive, and expressive language, and the ability to predict while looking at pictures while the teacher reads the book.



Physical Development

What do we do before going to bed at night? We explored *Bedtime Routines* as we engaged in a back-and-forth discussion with our teachers and friends as we discussed what routines we do before going to bed at night. During our discussion, we talked 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

We had so much fun singing and dancing to the *Song: "A Family is a Family,"* by Skip West today. This activity helped us focus and pay attention to movements and oral directions from the song and the teacher. 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. As we listened to and followed our teacher's instructions we began to understand the classroom routines and daily rituals we would use throughout the year, this supported the development of self-control.

STEAM

We had a fun experience where we created *Paintings to Music!* This activity provided us with the opportunity to express ourselves creatively in response to fun and engaging music. During this activity, we used painting tools and diverse materials to develop our hand-eye coordination to express ourselves creatively using open-ended processes. Using various art tools also works our fine motor skills which we will need for writing later. We also engaged in conversations about our work, practiced turn-taking in conversations with our teacher and friends, and used descriptive vocabulary to describe the artwork we created.

