



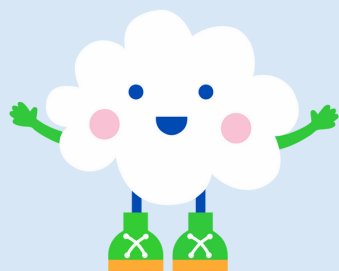
Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 15 | Day 1



We sang and moved our bodies to *We are Going on a Bear Hunt!* It was challenging but so much fun to follow multi-step directions as we acted out this action song. We had to demonstrate impulse control as we engaged in group play in a structured, physical activity. This activity also provided us with the opportunity to follow directions in a fun and engaging song while simulating various emotions from fearful, to brave. As we moved our bodies in response to the words of the song, followed different directional phrases such as over and under.

STEAM

We enjoyed a scientific discovery experience as we observed colors and shadows while *Exploring the Light Table*. During this activity, we were provided with the opportunity to learn to use a variety of simple tools appropriately when exploring lights and shadows using everyday materials. Discovering through inquiry helps us to extend our interest and curiosity in a natural way as we communicate the scientific ideas we are learning about while using our senses. Ask about what I discovered at the light table!



We read the book *"I Love Us: A Book about Family"* by Lisa Uribe with our teacher and then asked the question Where is the Dog? Pets at the Party? We bonded with our teacher and friends through supportive interactions while reading stories together about topics that we are interested in. This activity provided us with the opportunity to read a book and develop our vocabulary as we worked to ask "wh" questions.

During this activity, we are provided with the opportunity to use our recall and reasoning skills to answer questions about the book. As the teacher engaged us in conversation about the different character sizes, we used our hands and fingers to point and gesture.



We were cave explorers as we used flashlights to *Light Up the Cave!* As we used our hands and fingers we used flashlights as we pretended to explore a blanket cave. Using our hands and fingers promotes our fine motor skills which we will need for early writing. We also as we engaged in imaginative play with our friends, we learned verbal and social skills as well as working to demonstrate problem-solving skills.

Our teacher narrated our actions using our names and answered our questions allowing us to become more aware of our peers as we began to interact with them in meaningful ways.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 15 | Day 2



Language & Literacy

Our teacher shared the *Book: "Grandma's Tiny House: A Counting Story"* where we listened to a story where we practiced our counting skills while connecting to familiar items. During this activity, we also expanded our understanding of families, being able to identify the similarities and differences between us and others as they compared personal experiences with those of children in the story. Listening to stories with our teacher builds our bond as well as gives us a chance to use words and gestures to respond to simple questions about the story.



Physical Development

We played a fun listening game called *Red Light, Green Light* where one person was it and they would say green light and we ran but if they said red light we had to stop. As we ran and played with our friends we strengthened our gross motor skills and developed large muscles like legs and arms. As we moved our bodies during this activity we continued to increase our strength, endurance, and balance while gaining knowledge of speed and following the rules of a familiar childhood game.

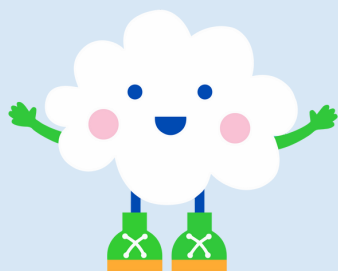


Music & Movement

Song: "Finger Family Song" 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.

STEAM

We discovered *My World is Made of Shapes!* We explored our classroom while using pattern blocks as we built familiar objects using the shapes. This activity provided us with the opportunity to explore the differences in how objects fit together. Through teacher encouragement and scaffolding, we learn to trust them as we engage in this new activity. Matching blocks to pattern cards increased our understanding of spatial relationships while developing our fine motor skills as we manipulate and move the blocks together. We gained experience with the concepts of same and different as we compared the shapes we used to make familiar objects.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 15 | Day 3

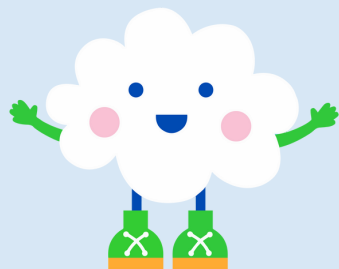
STEAM

We observed how colors move in and out of the light during our *Light and Art* activity. This activity provided us with the opportunity to learn to use a variety of simple tools appropriately when exploring colors and light in the art we created. We also described our artwork and compared how it looked while on the table and then held up to the light. Discovering through inquiry helps us to extend our interest and curiosity while developing our scientific skills in a natural way.



Language & Literacy

We enjoyed the *Book: "Bears Busy Family"* with our teacher during group reading today. This was a story about a family and all the parts of a family and how they work together. While participating in this group activity, we built relationships with our teacher and friends while we pointed out pictures and matched them to what the teacher was reading. We also noticed the actions of the characters in the book and then used our recall and reasoning skills to answer questions. Ask me what I thought about the story!



Physical Development

We practiced what we learned last week as we *Revisited* how to go *Up the Stairs and Down the Slide* safely. 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.



Music & Movement

We sang the song "*Celebrate*" as we looked for and identified our own family pictures. We demonstrated impulse control and engaged in group play in a structured, physical activity. It was so much fun when we heard about other traditions, celebrations, and holidays that are celebrated by us. We interacted playfully with our friends during the group activity as we followed the directions of our teacher as we developed our self-regulation skills. We also demonstrated our understanding of our family and an emerging awareness of our own culture and ethnicity.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 15 | Day 4



Language & Literacy

I Love My Family! We compared real-life events to the events of a familiar story as we reread, “Love Makes a Family,” Rereading stories helped us recall the details to be able to retell the story using props and characters. Revisiting stories provides us the opportunity to learn about the structure of a story as we are able to recount different parts from memory. We were also able to work on our social skills as we worked together to recount specific details to be able to retell the story accurately.



Physical Development

We developed our fine motor skills during our *Pinching Playdough* activity. This activity promoted self-confidence by offering appropriate levels of independence and support as we learned to manipulate playdough to make shapes and designs. During this activity, we practiced using common classroom tools and participated in social conversation with our friends, developing our communication skills. We also coordinated our hand and finger movement with increasing strength and control to achieve the desired goal.

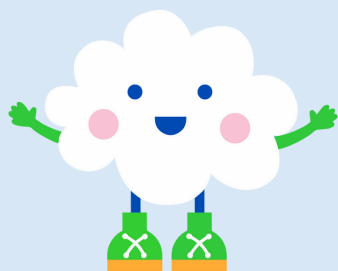


Music & Movement

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? We used our listening skills to be able to shift body movements to match the beat of the song, “*This Little Light of Mine*” by *Raffi*. Dancing also develops and gives us the opportunity to use our large muscles and gross motor skills. Listening to music 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. Play a song and dance at home!

STEAM

Brr it’s cold in here! We explored with water’s properties as well as with colors as we enjoyed the activity *Snow Colors*. During this activity, we used our scientific brains as we began to understand the cause and effect of our own actions as our teacher narrated where we experimented with adding colors to snow. We also coordinated our hand and finger movements with increasing control as we used squirt bottles and basters to color the snow. As we explored the changing state of water as the snow begins to melt, we learned to compare and contrast the characteristics of the snow to the liquid in the basters and squirt bottles.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 15 | Day 5



Physical Development

We had so much fun as we explored while during *Parachute Play!* During this activity, we showed a sense of satisfaction in our own abilities as we developed our gross motor coordination and control. We experienced the effects of others' movements and what they did to the parachute, learning to coordinate our own actions with those of our friends. Parachute play invites participation with engagement and persistence as they listen and follow directions.



Language & Literacy

It's storytime and we got to enjoy a new story called "*You Are Light*" by Aaron Becker. We engaged in this book as we turned the pages, looked at the illustrations, and explored the dye-cut circles with light and colors in the book. We demonstrated our interest and curiosity as we developed our awareness of print concepts while learning about scientific ideas. We also will begin to understand the classroom routines and daily rituals as we participate in activities with teachers and peers which supports the development of self-regulation as well as a sense of self with adults and peers.

STEAM

Circle or Square? Put It There! We continued reinforcing our knowledge of shapes as we sorted a variety of common objects by shape in two categories, circle or square, and placed the circular-shaped items in a hula hoop and the square objects on a carpet square. Sorting by a single attribute helps us understand how to focus on one single thing at a time. Sorting by shapes was a great way for us to develop our mathematical skills by categorizing and counting objects. It also grew our confidence and ability to sort. As we sorted by observable characteristics we practiced counting using one-to-one correspondence to count how many circle-shaped items we found and how many square-shaped objects we found.



Music & Movement

We had so much fun moving to the beat and looking at how light moves as we enjoy *Shadow Dancing*. With our teacher's support, we used learned vocabulary to talk about the properties and characteristics of light energy. As we danced around we demonstrated an awareness of our body in space as we engaged in independent exploration to follow activities through to a conclusion over an extended period of time. Dancing to the music helps promote control, strength, and coordination of large muscles as we use observation and imitation to transfer knowledge to new experiences.

