



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 1

STEAM

Brrr, it got a little cold today when explored *Water and Ice: Properties of Water* while using our senses. We explored water and its properties, posing hypothesis to see what makes ice and water different and why ice melts. Sensory activities give us the opportunity to work together in peer groups, learning how to work in the same space through cooperation and taking turns. Answering open-ended questions provided us with the opportunity to expand/extend our thoughts and ideas.



Language & Literacy

We read the Book: “*National Geographic Kids Look and Learn: Look Outside!*” with our teacher. This activity provided us with a chance to learn new vocabulary and different aspects of the weather. As we read together, we participated as a group to explore a topic in life sciences during the read-aloud with our teacher. This activity requires active listening and answering “what” questions. We were encouraged to listen and show interest when the teacher reads using hand and arm movements as forms of expression participating in the discussion.

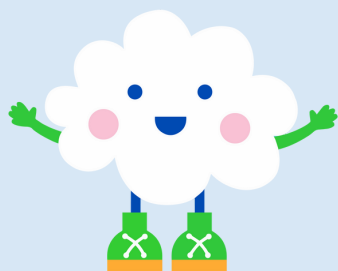


What's the Weather Like Today? We sang, played, and read with our teacher and friends while we made observations about the weather. As we discussed the weather and performed the movements to the fingerplay, we had the opportunity to demonstrate our growing knowledge and develop a positive sense of self. Encouraging older toddlers to comment on the emotions of the character in the book provides an opportunity for them to practice foundational empathy. We also expressed our understanding of the words of the song and moved creatively to the beat through music and movement during this activity.



Physical Development

We learned through play during our *Run and Roll!* activity. This activity provided us with the opportunity to work on large muscle balance and coordination as we moved from a seated position to standing. As we practiced taking turns running and rolling the ball, we gained practice in our own controlled movement and balance. As we were invited to show increasing independence as we selected this activity and participated on our own as much as possible. This activity increased our teacher/child trust as a new game was introduced and our efforts were scaffolded to achieve a goal.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 2



Physical Development

We made our own snowy reflections using shaving cream. As I made *My Snowy Reflection* I had the opportunity to use my senses to explore the learning environment as I processed new information. Providing opportunities for us to play alongside one another with the support of a caring adult, fosters and strengthens peer relationships. As our teacher used our names, comments on our actions, and asked questions we became more aware of our peers and began to interact with them in meaningful ways.



Music & Movement

We sang and moved our bodies as we played a new version of Hokey Pokey called *Snowkey Pokey!* During this activity, we had the opportunity to stay connected with familiar adults for cues and support during the song as we gained practice in words for body parts. As we followed simple two-step directions as we participated in the song and game we were able to demonstrate our awareness to develop listening skills. We also had the chance to express our understanding as we matched our movements to the words of the song.

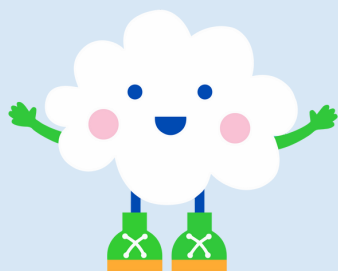


Language & Literacy

We had so much fun during our activity *Little Cloud's Main Squeeze!* This is where we observed the shape of clouds and made creative connections to other known shapes from the story "Little Cloud." During this activity, we participated as a group to explore a topic in life sciences during the read-aloud with our teacher as we used active listening to answer "what" questions. We were encouraged to listen and show interest when the teacher reads using hand and arm movements as forms of expression participating in the discussion. Let's point out cloud shapes on our drive home tonight!

STEAM

We created *Shaving Cream Constructions* where we explored stability and motion as we used block and shaving cream to construct simple structures. As we shared materials and worked on the activity together, we built a positive relationship with our friends. This activity provided us the opportunity to our fine motor skills to move the shaving cream to make our constructions. This experience supported young children's developing sense of competence and self-awareness as we recognized and enhanced our skills and abilities while using simple tools and making observations.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 3

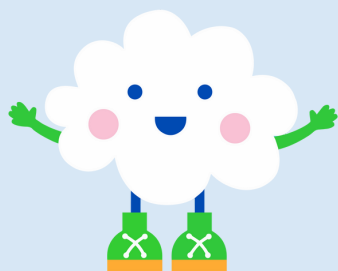
STEAM

Is it a liquid or is it a solid? We used our scientific skills as we *Observed Oobleck*. We used our scientific inquiry to observe, describe, and determine what type of substance Oobleck is. This activity allowed us to engage in scientific discussions with peers discussing different types of materials and their physical properties and states of matter. We also demonstrated scientific inquiry skills and communicated scientific ideas clearly as we explored the Oobleck. Ask me what I thought of Oobleck!



Physical Development

Feeling Full? We made a connection between the physical signs of being hungry and the need for healthy food to support our growing bodies. We learned that being full is when you eat enough healthy food and when you are eating healthy food you are helping your body work properly. As we learn the signs of being hungry and respond to them, we begin to develop a sense of competence that supports emerging self-awareness. Ask me what some of my favorite healthy foods are!



The *Old Gray Cat* 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. As we demonstrated our understanding of a variety of postures and movements while acting out the motions of a song we played alongside other children as we built our attention span for short periods. 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.



We read the book "*Hello World! Weather*" with our teacher. This was a story about the weather with gave us the opportunity to ask and answer questions as we learned about the weather. As we interacted with the story read aloud to us we learned how to appropriately interact in a group as we used verbal expressions and gestures to communicate needs, opinions, ideas, and preferences. As we discuss new vocabulary associated with the weather, we begin to explore a topic in earth sciences as we develop self-awareness.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 4

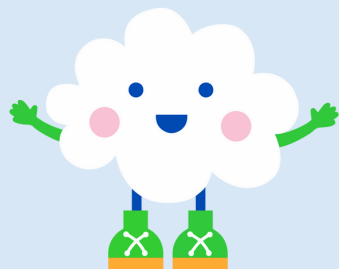


Music & Movement

We danced together to the song “*Tooty Ta*,” by Jack Hartmann. This song and movement activity provided us with the opportunity to engage in song with lots of different types of movements, developing our strength, and coordination of large muscles. As we moved in the space as our peers, we developed our spatial awareness and listening skills as built up stamina while dancing. Musical experiences also provide us with the opportunity to engage cooperatively with friends through creative musical expression developing our concept of self.

STEAM

1-2-3! We practiced our matching skills during our *Counting with Clothespins* activity. We practiced our counting skills we had the opportunity to explore 1:1 correspondence, number recognition, and small muscle coordination. During this activity, we engaged in completing work with a group while matching clothes pins to dots we were able to gain practice in one-to-one correspondence. We also built hand and finger strength pinching to open the clothes pins.



Language & Literacy

We read the Book: “*Grumpy Bird*” with our teacher. This activity provided us with the opportunity to read a story and learn about ways to seek comfort. While participating in a group with our friends, we used verbal expressions and gestures to communicate needs, opinions, ideas, and preferences using comparative terms to describe expressions we observed by the characters in the book. We also discussed new vocabulary associated with feelings as we discussed ways to seek support when feeling sad or grumpy during this read-aloud with our teacher and friends.



Physical Development

We used nontraditional paper during art when we created *Ice Paintings*. We were excited to use watercolors to paint blocks of ice as we worked to recognize the cause and effect of the ice melting as we painted it with watercolors. As we created our temporary artwork, we discussed our observations about water in its frozen state and what happened as we painted it. We also worked on being patient and waiting for friends to complete the project before we got our turn.

This activity also provided us with the opportunity to use both gross motor and fine motor skills as we moved the paintbrush across the ice.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 17 | Day 5



Language & Literacy

Our teacher read the book *"Mouse Mess"* to us today. This was a fun story about a mouse who wakes up from a nap very hungry for a snack but in making his snack he makes a big MESS! When we are read to, we gain new vocabulary and understanding of new concepts. It also teaches us to recognize patterns in the environment through language. We are also provided the opportunity to ask and answer questions about the story which develops our cognitive abilities.



Physical Development

It was a yummy day because we got to enjoy *Mouse Mess Munching*. We enjoyed learning about the health benefits of some yummy food we explored, described, and tasted two foods from the story "Mouse Mess." When participating in food activities, we begin to recognize ourselves as unique individuals by having our own preferences and interests as we choose between which two foods are our favorites. We also used our senses to observe, classify, and learn about healthy foods. Ask me what my favorite fruit or vegetable was!



Music & Movement

We played a game called *Mouse Mess Clean Up* where we pretended to help the family from our story "Mouse Mess" clean up the big mess that the mouse made in the kitchen. As we observed the food items we found we worked independently to identify words and/or symbols on familiar labels and logos, helping me demonstrate awareness of print concepts. As we participated in an interactive group activity, we also demonstrated confidence and satisfaction with our abilities, expressing pride in our accomplishments. This contributes to a growing sense of self-awareness.

STEAM

We experimented and created using nontraditional paintbrushes as we made *Sponge Paintings*. This activity provided me with the opportunity to explore painting with different art media. This allowed us the chance to build our hand and finger strength by pinching to open the clothes pins to grab sponge pieces to paint with. During this activity, we played alongside other children for short periods, often observing and imitating our friends teaching us about social skills. We also talked about our work using descriptive language as we moved in different ways while exploring the process of painting.

