



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 21 | Day 1



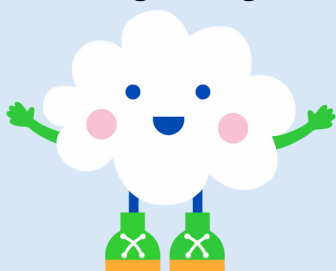
Music & Movement

We moved our bodies to music with our teacher and friends during our *Up and Down Dance* activity. This activity provided the opportunity to enjoy creative movement while following simple directions. Music and movement activities allow us to show a sense of satisfaction in our abilities, as well. We also demonstrated an understanding of the positional terms up and down. Let's put on some music and dance together while we move up and down!



Physical Development

Today we learned through play during our *Clothespin Jug Game* activity. This activity provided the opportunity to strengthen our pincer grasp and develop hand-eye coordination as we effectively aligned the clothespin to the opening. We engaged in parallel play with gentle teacher support, as needed, as we placed clothespins in a line and counted using one-to-one correspondence. Our finger muscles are growing stronger by the day!



STEAM

We discussed the observations we made while using water to create musical sounds during our activity, *The Sound of Music*. We used glasses of water and thin wooden sticks to make music. After our teacher demonstrated that more or less water makes different sounds, we were given the opportunity to experiment and observe it for ourselves by filling the glass with more water, and dumping out some when we wanted to change the note. Ask me about my water and music investigation!



Language & Literacy

We read the book, *"Tough Guys Have Feelings Too"* with our teacher. With encouragement from our teacher, we pointed to pictures on the "Faces and Feelings" poster that matched the emotions of the characters in the book. Being able to identify and name emotions in self and others supports the development of empathy and a growing sense of self with others. We also chose between two activities we might choose to do next time we feel sad: "hug a favorite toy" or "draw a picture". Which one do you think might help me?



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 21 | Day 2



Physical Development

Today we learned through play during our *Find the Bugs* activity. This activity supported our development of hand-eye coordination as we effectively used small tools such as small wooden hammers to break the ice. We engaged in parallel play with gentle teacher support, as needed, as we worked to remove the bugs from the ice, and counted using one-to-one correspondence.



Language & Literacy

Today we learned through play during our *Clothespin Jug Game* activity. This activity provided the opportunity to strengthen our pincer grasp and develop hand-eye coordination as we effectively aligned the clothespin to the opening. We engaged in parallel play with gentle teacher support, as needed, as we placed clothespins in a line and counted using one-to-one correspondence. Our finger muscles are growing stronger by the day!

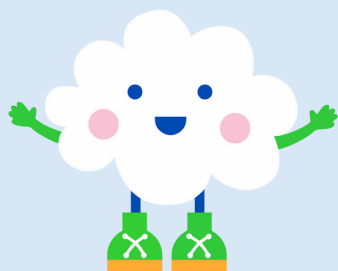


Music & Movement

We thought pretending to be grumpy was kind of funny when we danced to the *Grumpy Monkey Song*! Our goal for this activity was to mimic our teacher's movements and facial expressions while moving to the "Grumpy Monkey Song," during whole group music time. We learn to use and identify facial expressions that express feelings by practicing in many ways such as reading books, looking at photos, and mimicking the expressions with our own faces. Ask me to make a grumpy monkey face!

STEAM

Will it Float? That's the question we had to ponder today. Our goal was to demonstrate, with adult support, our knowledge related to physical science by using the basic properties of matter to predict if objects familiar to us would sink or float. Cotton balls, coins, small rocks, and paper; we predicted and then tested our theories. Investigating materials such as this assists us in recognizing our skills while confidently exploring unknown outcomes. This fosters a sense of competence that encourages us to eagerly take on new challenges.





Older Toddler
Daily Learning Highlights
Week 21 | Day 3



**Language
& Literacy**

I listened to my teacher read *Pigs Aplenty*, *Pigs Galore*, with a couple of my friends. Throughout the story, our teacher paused and we talked about the pictures, the characters, and what was happening in the story. With support from a trusted adult, I participated in an imaginative story experience, expressing my ideas and hearing those of my peers. When I engage in conversation with others, I'm building my social skills and my language skills!



**Music &
Movement**

We danced to *Hip Hop Music* and pretended to be dinosaurs as we moved to the "Dinosaur Stomp". I shifted my body movements to match the different beats and rhythms of the hip-hop song, as I made sure not to bump into anyone else. Sometimes I followed the directions of the song, and other times I moved in my own creative way. It was fun pretending to be a dinosaur as I danced!

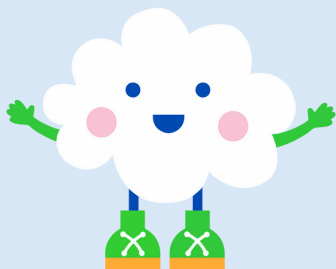
STEAM

Can you Make It Float? That was the question today! We demonstrated our understanding of cause and effect relationships by using unique tools to help 'heavy' objects float instead of sink. We used the same items as yesterday, cotton balls, coins, small rocks, and paper, but this time, we tried to make them float. Using styrofoam and plastic egg halves like boats, we experimented to see what would work best. We are super scientists!



**Physical
Development**

Today we learned through play during our *Ring Around the Rosy with a Parachute* activity. This activity supported us in showing a sense of satisfaction in our own abilities as we developed gross motor coordination and control. During this activity we experienced the effects that others' movements have on the parachute, learning to coordinate our own actions with those of our friends. Parachute play invites participation with engagement and persistence as we listen and follow directions.





Older Toddler
Daily Learning Highlights
Week 21 | Day 4



**Music &
Movement**

We moved and grooved with our friends to the Song: “*I Got a Hat*”. We learned why we wear a hat (to protect our head from the sun/weather) as we followed the directions in the song, as well as our teacher’s movements. Music and movement help us to continue to form relationships with adults and peers while sharing playful and engaging activities together.



**Physical
Development**

Circles, triangles, squares, oh my! We worked with those shapes, and more, during our Shape-sorting activity. We used our hands to turn, push, and drop the shapes into the sorter. We gave our problem-solving skills, our geometry skills, and our fine motor skills a workout all at once. Let’s look for shapes together at home this evening!

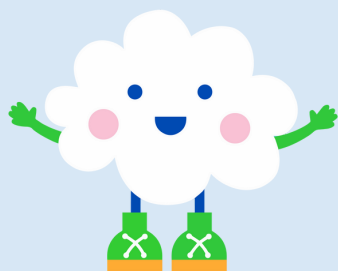


**Language
& Literacy**

I listened to “*The Hat*” by Jan Brett with a few of my friends. We each chose a stuffed animal to help us reenact the story, with our teacher’s prompting and suggestions. We focused on how the animals in the story were feeling, and put a “hat” on our stuffed animal, just like in the story. Illustrations in books can reinforce learning as we begin to recognize and name basic emotions in ourselves and in others.

STEAM

Yesterday we tried to “make it float” and today we were asked to *Sink My Boat*. Our goal was to demonstrate our understanding of cause and effect relationships by using unique tools to ‘sink’ our floating boats. Inviting my friends and I to investigate assists us in recognizing our skills while confidently exploring unknown outcomes. Experimenting, with teacher prompting and support, fosters a sense of competence that will encourage us to eagerly take on new challenges.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 21 | Day 5

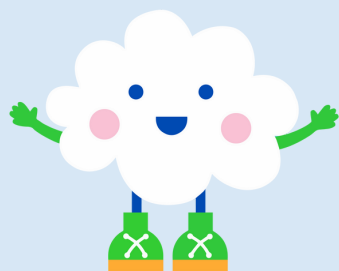


Language & Literacy

We honed our vocabulary during the activity, *Welcome New Friend!* First, our teacher read the book, “Lola Goes to School,” by Anna McQuinn. In the story, Lola is a girl who is going to a new school. She does not know what to do at school and that is making her feel scared. We pretended that Lola was in our class and we helped her find all the things in the story that were mentioned. We demonstrated an understanding of common words (classroom objects) by pointing to the physical object that was named, thereby displaying our understanding of vocabulary.

STEAM

Which Vehicle is the Fastest? That was the question our teacher asked a small group of us today. First, each of us predicted which vehicle was the fastest, then we tested our theories. We demonstrated our knowledge related to physical science by identifying the fastest vehicle in the classroom as we raced the cars. Which car do you think won the race? Let’s talk about it together.



Music & Movement

Today we moved our bodies with our teacher and friends during the Song: “*This is the Way We Say Goodbye.*” The goal of this activity was to repeat a few words or several phrases from a familiar song. Music and movement activities provide us with the opportunity to learn new vocabulary terms as we use music and movement as a form of expression. In this activity, we learned that people say goodbye at the end of the day. Goodbye, rituals are just as important as good morning and hello songs. It’s another way to connect and let each other know that we are all valued.



Physical Development

After we welcomed our new friend, Lola (a puppet), to our classrooms we worked on *Keeping Lola Safe!* The goal of this activity was to identify actions at school that are unsafe. Some of the things we discussed were: hitting hurts, biting hurts, using our feet to walk, being gentle, throwing balls not blocks, watching out for your friends, etc. As we discussed safe and unsafe behaviors in the classroom, we had opportunities to demonstrate our growing knowledge and develop a positive sense of self. When we teach others, we learn on a deeper level!