



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 33 | Day 1



Music & Movement

We sang and danced to the *Mr. Sun* song. With this song, we continued our sun theme for the week and learned how important the sun is in our daily lives. Plus, how fun is dancing and singing?! Dancing and singing help us develop our listening skills while attending to communication and language from others while we learn the words of a song. It also develops our muscles and motor skills, as well as our social skills while we are doing something entertaining with our friends. This song also allowed us to demonstrate our ability to follow simple commands.



Language & Literacy

We read the *Book: "The Bear Snores On"* with our teacher and friends. This activity provided us with the opportunity to read and learn about kindness. In this activity, we listened to a story and used descriptive words to gain an understanding that print has meaning. We were encouraged to listen and show interest as our teacher read with expression. We also responded to our teacher's prompts to expand our understanding of friendship and kindness.

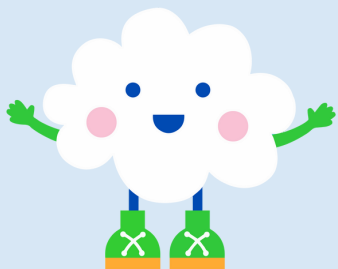


Physical Development

We learned through play during our *Hula Hoop Chant* activity. During this activity, we coordinated our body movements to jump with both feet leaving the ground while doing a Hula Hoop Chant. We enjoyed playing alongside our friends for short periods observing and imitating the movements of others. As we actively participated in this activity, we developed our large motor skills and coordination as we jumped, crawled, hopscotched, spun, rolled, and frog jumped. This activity also provided us the opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the positional words, in and out.

STEAM

We used our sense of sight *Observing Mealworm Life Cycle Changes*. The goal of the activity was to begin to identify living things in the proper stage of growth (e.g. worm, pupa, beetle), with frequent verbal prompting from our teacher. Before checking in on our mealworm habitat, we predicted some of the changes we expected to find. Then we took turns being a "scientist" by drawing names and then putting on the labcoat when it was our turn. We observed the mealworms in the habitat and compared the live mealworms to the pictures on the life cycle of mealworms poster. Ask me about my mealworm observations!





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 33 | Day 2



Language & Literacy

We read the book *Ten, Nine, Eight* and counted as we went along. This experience provided us with the opportunity to respond appropriately to questions when asked as we pointed to pictures that match the events and characters described in the story. Did you know that this story won a Caldecott Honor Award? It is a very special award that goes to just a few books each year that have wonderful pictures. Maybe we can look for Caldecott Honor Award books at the library sometime soon!



Physical Development

We created sensory art during our *Finger Paint Prints* activity. This activity provided children the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills to create their own unique finger-paint artwork. We used a variety of art materials to practice adjusting our grip on paintbrushes and non-traditional objects while creating designs in the paint. We enjoyed a full sensory experience as we created original works of art and used them as a form for self-expression and to express individual creativity. Through teacher support, we listened and followed directions to complete the finger-painting print activity.

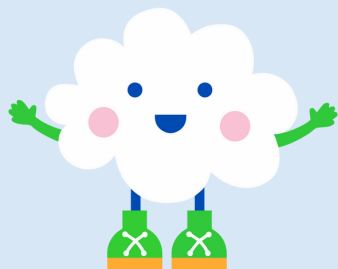
STEAM

We learned through play during the activity called *Hammer Time*. This experience helped us develop perseverance as we used our pincer grasp and eye-hand coordination to hammer popsicle sticks into a playdough hill. During this activity, we answered questions and used positional words while participating either individually or alongside our friends. During this activity, we also had the opportunity to copy patterns and sort by color as we counted using one-to-one correspondence as we hammered the popsicle sticks into playdough.



Music & Movement

We moved and sang with our friends *Ten in the Bed* as we counted and identified that two objects equal 2. While singing, we recognized patterns in the song and responded appropriately to repeated phrases. We bonded with our teacher through supportive interactions while expanding our knowledge of counting and numbers during the songs and learning patterns in rhymes. By participating in a group, we developed positive relationships singing alongside our friends, we learned to match pitch and rhythm. We also demonstrated impulse control as we took turns as we waited to participate at different times in the songs and rhymes.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 33 | Day 3

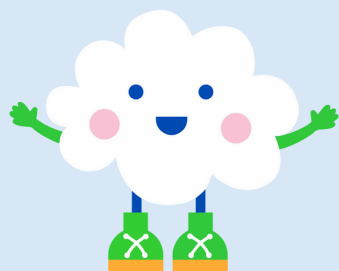
STEAM

We explored and learned about patterns as we *Sifted Patterns in the Sandbox*. During this activity, we had the opportunity to learn, identify, extend, and create simple repeating patterns. We demonstrated our ability to feel confident in our patterning skills while using fine and large motor movements to create patterns using the sand. We had to listen carefully to follow the directions of our teacher to learn to differentiate an object by its properties to create ABAB patterns.



Language & Literacy

We read the story *Tuesday* by David Weisner, which is a story that won the Caldecott Medal Award. One thing that makes this book extra special was that it is a wordless picture book. With the help of prompting and encouragement from our teacher, we sustained interest as we explored the illustrations of this wordless book to tell the story that we saw on the pages. We also developed our awareness of print concepts as we expanded our vocabulary to communicate what we were seeing on the page.



Music & Movement

We learned through movement and song as we sang the Song “*This Old Man*” by Jack Hartmann. This activity provided us with the opportunity to sing a song that features rhyming and counting. The objective of the experience was to shift our body movements to match the different beats and rhythms of a jazz song during unstructured dance time. This activity provided us with the opportunity to use observation and imitation to transfer knowledge to new experiences as we intentionally perform an action.



Physical Development

We explored a *Loose Parts Sensory Basket*. We were provided with a sensory experience where we discovered what we could do with loose parts. We had to work cooperatively with our friends in order to share space and materials as we used our senses to explore our learning environment and process information. Putting together parts and building things creatively helps develop our fine motor skills that require small muscle strength and control. This activity also provided us with the opportunity to use information gained about familiar objects and apply it to this experience as we developed our scientific inquiry skills, as we figured out how things could fit together and/or stack upon each other.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 33 | Day 4

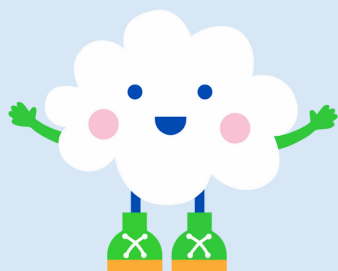


Music & Movement

Is it a *Frog or Pig*? We connected our book Tuesday with movement as we pretended to move like the frogs that were floating and the pigs that were flying. During this fun game, we learned to adjust our bodies to maintain our balance while we moved up, down, and around the activity area. As we coordinated our movements together, we listened to follow directions as we demonstrated our gross motor skills. We also developed a positive sense of self as we displayed our growing knowledge of our abilities.

STEAM

What Can My Shadow Do? That was the question we pondered as we observed how our shadow moves in the physical environment. We learned that we needed light to make shadows; so we used flashlights. We saw that when the light was shining on the object (us) we could see a soft outline of the object; and that's the shadow. When we moved, our shadow moved! We had fun. I hope we can play with our shadows at home together!



Physical Development

We had a tunnel of fun as we went through tunnels during our *Tunnel Relay*! We had to use all our muscles, both large and small, to navigate the box tunnels as we moved our bodies in a variety of ways. As our teacher described our actions, we learned new positional vocabulary, like over, under, and upside down! This activity also gave us an opportunity to practice being safe during our exploration and play as we took turns crawling. As we experimented with the tunnels, we began to explore our own abilities and develop a sense of competence that supports the development of positive self-awareness.



Language & Literacy

Is it *Day or Night*? How do we know? We read the story “National Geographic Kids: Day and Night” with our teacher and friends as we learned about the earth and sun. The objective of this experience was to point to pictures in the book that show different times of day, with our teacher’s verbal prompting and encouragement. In this activity we learned and used descriptive words as we gained an understanding that print has meaning. As we expressed our thoughts during small group activities we developed a positive sense of our abilities and self-worth.





Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 33 | Day 5



Language & Literacy

We read the *Book: "Where's Spot"* with our teacher and friends. The objective of this experience was for us to show understanding of common positional words by performing the actions mentioned in the book, with our teacher's modeling and support. We had the chance to learn spatial concepts from connecting the words to the pictures in the book. We also participated in parallel play, further developing our relationships with others.



Music & Movement

Acting Cut "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was fun! The objective of this activity was to initiate and sustain engagement in a dramatic play 'story' by taking on the characteristics of a familiar person or animal from a nursery rhyme, with verbal prompting and encouragement from our teacher. We learned the definitions of new words, such as ewe (mother sheep), ram (father sheep), lamb (baby sheep), and fleece (fur or wool in a lamb's coat). Ask me to sing the song!

STEAM

What's on the menu? We discovered *Child and Mealworm Menus: Fruit or Vegetable* as we discussed and discovered what mealworms like to eat. We learned that mealworms like fruits and vegetables and it was up to us to pick out the fruits and vegetables. Sorting and categorizing familiar objects helps us understand patterns and see how things are alike and different. This was a great way for us to develop our mathematical skills by categorizing, distinguishing, and counting similar objects with different distinguishing features. As we matched vegetables and fruits in the right together and matched them into a set, we grew our confidence in our ability to create pairs.



Physical Development

The sky is so pretty and it makes so many beautiful colors! We used the book "National Geographic Kids: Day and Night," to look at different pictures of the sky and see all the wonderful colors it creates. We then used that as inspiration to create our own *Drawing* featuring the *Colors of the Sky*. Holding the different drawing tools helped me demonstrate my fine motor skills and learned that writing can be done for a variety of purposes. We also developed self-awareness as we thought about our preferences and made choices about our art.

