



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 39 | Day 1

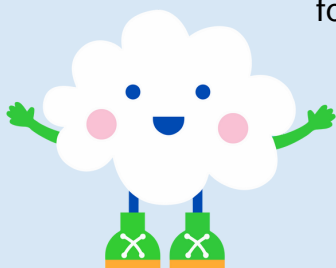


Language & Literacy

We had so much fun playing a *Hand Game* called *We Clap!* The goal of the game was for us to follow two-step directions while enjoying a fingerplay. Throughout the game, we received lots of friendly reminders and encouragement, both through words and gestures. The chant we followed went like this: "We clap, we clap, we clap and then we stop. We tap, we tap, we tap and then we stop." We mixed it up a bit by waving, wiggling, jumping, and more. Our listening skills were put to work!

STEAM

Hunting Bugs was a great opportunity to explore our outdoor learning environment in a different way. The objective of this experience was for us to become familiar with and use a variety of simple tools, such as magnifying glasses and flashlights. Throughout the activity, the teacher asked questions such as, "Can you find a bug using the flashlight?" or "What do you notice about this bug?". These prompts helped us focus our attention, make connections, and engage in meaningful discussions about the bugs we found.



Music & Movement

During the activity called *Percussion: STOMP*, we had the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the captivating world of percussion. Inspired by the renowned junk band, STOMP, we watched a video that showcased their incredible talent and creativity. We couldn't help but feel a sense of connection as we remembered our own experience of forming a 'junk band' last week. With the video as our guide, we shifted our body movements to synchronize with the changing beats and rhythms. The activity *Percussion: STOMP* not only allowed us to appreciate the artistry of the STOMP performers but also served as a reminder of our own creativity and potential.



Physical Development

We liked doing the activity *Creepy Crawly Walks!* The activity required us to adjust our bodies in order to maintain our balance while walking in different ways. We incorporated a spinner into the game. The spinner had different animals on it, including spiders, bears, crabs, and ants. Each of us took turns spinning the spinner, and whatever animal it landed on, we had to move like that animal. It was a creative and interactive way to learn about different animals' movements while having a great time with our friends. It was a fantastic way to work on our motor skills and coordination.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 39 | Day 2

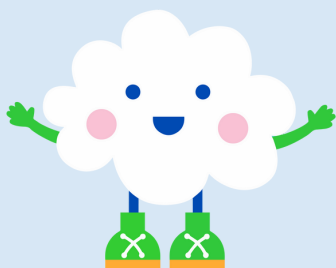
STEAM

Today, we engaged in a *Magic Milk Color Experiment*, where we had the chance to explore and mix colors. By participating in this group activity alongside our teacher and friends, we not only fostered a sense of identity, but also a sense of belonging. Throughout this experiment, we learned to use expressive language as we described the changes we observed when mixing different materials. Our interest and curiosity shone as we engaged in this interesting observation to explore the fascinating world of color mixing.



Physical Development

During our *Color Sorting Tower* activity today, we discovered the power of learning through play. With the guidance and support of our teacher, we followed directions and actively participated in the task of sorting colorful blocks to build towers. This required us to carefully manipulate the blocks, enhancing our fine motor skills as we picked up and placed each piece where we decided. We liked this different way of building a tower!



Language & Literacy

During our *Sensory ABC's* activity today, we had the opportunity to learn through a hands-on sensory experience. With the guidance and support of our teacher, we practiced asking simple "wh" questions to enhance our understanding. As we explored the sensory table, we discovered various letters hidden within it. If we came across a letter that we were unsure about, we could ask our teacher, "What's this?" and she would kindly provide us with the answer. This multi-sensory learning experience provided a fun and effective way for us to absorb knowledge and actively engage with the material.



Music & Movement

During our music session today, we explored the song *The Grand Old Duke of York*. This experience was not only enjoyable, but it also provided us with an opportunity to learn through music. As we sang along to the catchy tune, we were able to engage in movement and physical activity. Furthermore, this musical activity allowed us to work on our large motor movements. Moving from one position to another while singing the song required us to coordinate our body movements and maintain our balance and posture. This helps to develop our physical coordination and control, which is essential for overall motor skills development.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 39 | Day 3



Music & Movement

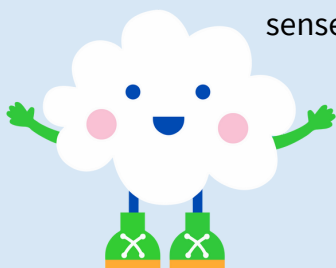
Did you know that more than spiders can climb up a water spout? We sang the song and followed our teacher's movements to the *Itsy Bitsy Bumble Bee*.

Did you know that bumble bees are super important to growing the plants that feed us? Bumble bees are pollinators. They fly around gathering pollen from flowers to help plants grow. It's really important to protect our bees. I learned this today! Maybe we can sing the Itsy Bitsy Bumble Bee together! Pretending and using our imagination are natural and fluid components of our play that support the development of relationships with our peers.



Physical Development

Our *Cap Twist Off Activity* encouraged us to learn through play. By actively participating in this hands-on activity, We were encouraged to adjust our pincer grasp to manipulate caps to twist them off and on. We also used our fine motor muscles as we picked up small items such as pompoms, pieces of paper, and foam collage pieces. We also gained valuable knowledge about how object work and practiced following simple classroom rules. Providing guidance and support as we problem-solve and share our ideas, fosters confidence in our abilities and promotes a positive sense of self.



Language & Literacy

In the activity called *Hidden Names*, our teacher came up with a clever way to engage us in discovering our own names. Using a white crayon, our teacher wrote our names on a piece of paper that was also white. This made it nearly impossible for us to see our names at first glance. The challenge was set, and it was up to us to uncover the hidden names. By holding the paintbrush and making deliberate strokes on the paper, we were able to enhance our fine motor skills. The aim of this activity was to help us start recognizing our own names when written. We compared it to our name card and saw that it said the same - our name!

STEAM

During our *Build a Bug* activity, we used our imagination and creativity to build our own bugs. To kickstart our ideas, our teacher provided us with a variety of materials such as art clay, pieces of aluminum foil, buttons, pipe cleaners, tissue paper, and coffee filters. With verbal prompting and pictures of bugs, we thought about the bugs we learned about previously, and considered their unique characteristics and features. Then, we planned our bug designs and used the materials on the table to bring our ideas to life. This hands-on experience not only allowed us to explore our artistic abilities but also deepened our knowledge and appreciation for the insect world.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 39 | Day 4

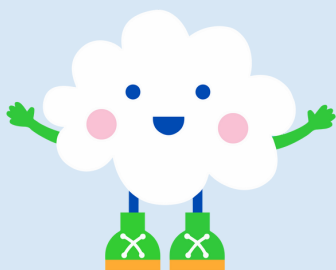
STEAM

We looked at pictures of the bugs we found during the bug hunt a couple of days ago and we thought ‘*What Do Insects Eat?*’. We brought wet and dry food such as: chunks of fruit and vegetables, lettuce, small pieces of bread, cookies, crackers etc., outside to see what would be eaten. The goal of this activity was for us to observe objects and events in the physical environment while noticing which foods insects eat. Ask me about the results of our experiment!



Language & Literacy

We heard a book by the author and illustrator, Eric Carle called *The Very Busy Spider*. The objective of this activity was for us to repeat one phrase from a familiar story with verbal prompting and encouragement. The sentence, ‘She was very busy spinning her web’ was repeated throughout most of the story. Many of us said ‘very busy spinning her web’ or ‘spinning her web’ after our teacher said, ‘She was...’. We truly enjoy being able to predict what comes next in the story!



Music & Movement

Dancing to the classical song “*The Flight of the Bumblebee*” by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov was exciting and fun! The objective was for us to produce our own preferred dance moves while using props, such as ribbons or scarves. The room became a canvas for our individual expressions, as we moved freely in our own spaces. Some of us twirled gracefully, our bodies flowing like the ribbons we held. Others leaped and spun, others; movements mirroring the flight of a bumblebee itself. After the song ended we did a couple of breathing exercises such as “the balloon” to help us calm before transitioning to the next activity.



Physical Development

The *Fun Course: Weave and Jump* was an exhilarating activity that required us to hold a brightly colored ribbon while weaving around the strategically placed cones. We displayed remarkable agility, swiftly maneuvering through the tight spaces. With the finish line in sight, we approached the final challenge - the hoop. As we neared the hoop, we leaped into the air, our bodies soaring gracefully. For a brief moment, both our feet left the ground, and then we landed safely inside the hoop.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 39 | Day 5



Language & Literacy

Like *The Very Busy Spider*, I too created my own web. Using crayons, markers, and pencils, I made use of various drawing and writing tools to depict straight lines, curved lines, and shapes resembling letters while illustrating and describing spider webs. Some of us wrote letters of the alphabet, and others worked on writing their name or even their spider story. I was a very busy “writer”!



Music & Movement

The Kiboomers' song, "*One Elephant Went Out to Play*," was the highlight of our day. It revolved around the intriguing combination of spiders' webs and elephants. As we embraced our imaginative side, we transformed into playful elephants frolicking on a giant spider's web. Whenever the music prompted us to "call for another elephant to come," our teacher extended her hand, inviting one (more) of us to join in the fun. With each call, our elephant count on the "spider web" reached a delightful total of five. We love to pretend and we also love to sing and dance!



Physical Development

During our activity called *Beading*, we engaged our creativity while chatting with friends. This activity required us to use our pincer grasp to pick up beads of various sizes and string them, which helped improve our small motor muscles and hand-eye coordination. To make it easier, our teacher taped one end of the string to the table, allowing us to focus on holding the other end and threading the beads. Sometimes it was simple, while other times it posed a challenge. When we needed assistance, our teacher offered guidance and support. We also problem-solved and shared our ideas, which boosted our confidence and nurtured a positive self-image.

STEAM

A naturalist is a scientist who studies things in the natural environment. A naturalist is very careful to look, listen, and even to notice smells while being very, very careful not to disturb anything; and we did that while *Searching for Spiders*. The objective of this experience was to investigate spiders and spider webs in the grass and bushes outside with our teacher's verbal prompting and encouragement. We used spray bottles to lightly spray mist on the bushes, so that we would be able to see any spider webs that wouldn't be visible without the tiny droplets of water clinging to them. Did we find any? Ask me!

