



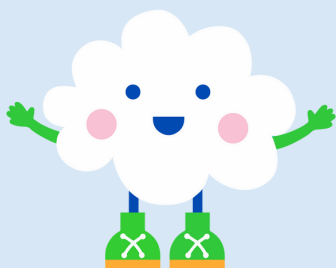
Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 48 | Day 1

STEAM

During our *Making Messy Puffy Paint* STEAM activity, we experimented with making puffy paint using glue, shaving cream, and food coloring, then creatively painted with our mixtures. This hands-on experience engaged their senses, fostered creativity, and encouraged scientific inquiry as we observed and described the changes in our materials. Through this activity, we expressed our ideas and feelings, highlighting the role of exploration and expression in early childhood development.



We had so much fun dancing and pretending to make pizzas while listening to a song by JunyTony during our *Let's Make a Pizza!* music and movement activity. We mirrored adult-led movements and added our own dance moves, engaging in a fun and interactive session that combined creativity with an introduction to counting. This activity not only fostered self-expression and social interaction but also subtly introduced mathematical concepts through playful engagement.



In the *Scooter on the Move!* activity, we learned to ride scooters by experimenting with pushing techniques and foot placement under adult guidance. We explored concepts of speed and balance, enhancing their gross motor skills and understanding of physical science. Our teacher supported our learning with verbal encouragement and open-ended questions, fostering a sense of achievement. Optional visual aids, like a chalk-drawn foot on the scooter's platform, helped refine our coordination. This outdoor exercise not only promoted physical development but also vocabulary acquisition and self-competence.



Today, we explored the concept of dressing through the engaging story "Maggie and Michael Get Dressed." During the *Getting Dressed: Dolls Edition* we listened to the story where we were prompted to think and talk about the process of getting dressed, relating it to our own experiences. As the story unfolded, we were encouraged to identify clothing items and match them to body parts using a baby doll as a practical example, enhancing our language and literacy skills. This hands-on experience not only reinforced our understanding of everyday routines but also promoted healthy and safe habits.



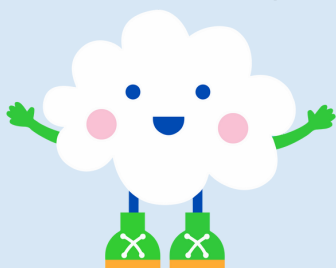
Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 48 | Day 2



We practiced keeping the beat during our *Follow That Beat!* activity where we learned to mimic beats with clapping and instruments, culminating in playing along to “Baby Beluga” by Raffi. This interactive session not only fostered cognitive and creative growth but also enhanced listening skills and mathematical understanding through rhythm. Offering instrument choices, supported our social-emotional development, as we recognized our preferences and reinforced our sense of self.

STEAM

In the *Melting Frozen Hands* activity, we explored the properties of water through experimenting with melting ice shaped like hands. Guided by our teacher, we investigated how heat affects ice, using warm water and various tools to see the transformation from solid to liquid. This STEAM-based activity promoted independence, encouraged curiosity, and facilitated peer interactions as we learned about water's dynamic properties, fostering our scientific inquiry skills and self-confidence in observing natural phenomena.



Language & Literacy

During our *Making a Pizza Collage* activity, we expressed our preferences for pizza toppings using nonverbal cues and participated in a group art project. We used finger paint to create the pizza sauce on cardboard rounds, then chose from various paper toppings to add to our collective pizza, using tongs for fine motor skill development. This encouraged our sensory exploration, creativity, and group cooperation, allowing us to share and discuss our favorite pizza toppings. This experience not only enhanced language and literacy development but also supported physical development and self-awareness through sensory engagement and personal expression.



Physical Development

We had so much fun engaging in physical movement and cooperative play using a play parachute to the tune of the classic Disney song "It's a Small World After All." *Parachute Play to It's a Small World* encouraged us to participate in synchronized movements such as lifting the parachute high and bringing it down low, as well as moving in a circle together, enhancing our gross motor skills and coordination. The structured play with the parachute in a supervised and safe environment helped in develop our social-emotional skills, such as self-control and forming relationships with adults, as we navigated working together and seeking adult support when needed.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 48 | Day 3



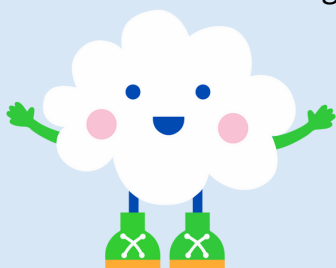
Language & Literacy

In the *Sorting Baby Doll Clothes* activity, children practiced sorting doll clothes into categories. This activity aimed to enhance language and literacy skills, categorization, and comprehension through hands-on engagement. While sorting shirts, hats, and pants into trays, we sang a related song, blending music into the learning experience. This task encouraged cooperation, and turn-taking, and demonstrated the application of basic mathematical concepts like sorting and patterning. It effectively promoted social-emotional development and teamwork among us.



Music & Movement

The *I Know the Parts of My Body* activity had us joyfully engaging with the song "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" to learn about our body parts and practice large motor movements. Through singing and performing corresponding movements at different speeds, we not only learned about various body parts but also practiced spatial awareness to ensure safety. This fun and interactive experience encouraged us to express ourselves through movement, bolstering our confidence and eagerness to explore new learning challenges.



Physical Development

How does it fit together? Today we explored *Floor Puzzles* as we assembled a puzzle to bolster physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development. Through manipulating puzzle pieces, we practiced fine motor skills and spatial awareness, collaboratively working to match pieces based on a reference image. Utilizing picture name cards for turn-taking, we learned to recognize our own and others' names, enhancing our sense of self and participation in the group dynamic. This multifaceted activity seamlessly integrated physical interaction with cognitive challenges and social learning.

STEAM

From Dirt Dough to Mud Soup STEAM activity was a fun activity where we explored the changing properties of mixtures by combining soil, water, flour, and cornstarch. Wearing smocks for protection, we experimented with these substances outdoors, adding one ingredient at a time to observe changes in consistency and discussing the effects. The activity encouraged hands-on learning and critical thinking as we predicted and verbalized the outcomes of our actions. This activity not only supported scientific inquiry and physical development but also promoted curiosity, cause-and-effect understanding, and peer collaboration, enhancing our social-emotional skills.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 48 | Day 4



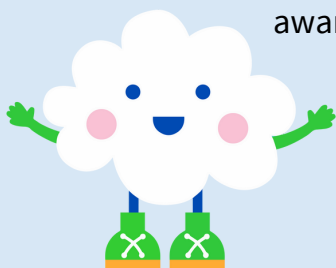
Physical Development

We had fun during our *Shape Walk Around* activity, where we practiced navigating around chalk-drawn shapes on concrete, enhancing physical coordination and spatial awareness. We alternated between slow and fast walking, avoiding the shapes and each other, then quickly choosing a shape to freeze in when instructed. This playful exercise reinforced geometric shape recognition, encouraged peer interaction and fostered social connections, supporting holistic development through physical and cognitive engagement in a fun, interactive setting.



Language & Literacy

Today we *Revisited Mouse Mess* where we explored the story "Mouse Mess" by Linnea Riley through a read-aloud session aimed at enhancing language skills and empathy. We discussed the story's illustrations and narrative, using descriptive vocabulary to talk about the actions and objects. This interaction encouraged us to express thoughts on the storyline and the emotions of its characters, deepening our understanding of language and emotional awareness.



STEAM

It went *Splat!* We got to explore with paint application using unique 'splat balls' made from pantyhose filled with materials like rice. Conducted outdoors or indoors with protective measures, this creative session involved bouncing paint-dipped balls onto surfaces, fostering discussion on cause and effect, and the physical properties of materials. We also contributed to rule-setting, enhancing their sense of community and responsibility. Through this engaging task, we learned about scientific inquiry, creativity, and physical and social development, making the learning process fun and educational.



Music & Movement

Triangles circles, squares, oh my! *Shape Songs* helped us learn about circles and squares through interactive songs and hands-on activities. We each received a circle and a square made of construction paper to explore and decorate while singing specific songs that describe each shape's characteristics. Afterward, we embarked on a classroom hunt to find objects matching these shapes. This engaging experience combined music, art, and movement to reinforce shape recognition, encourage creative expression, and enhance participation in group activities.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 48 | Day 5



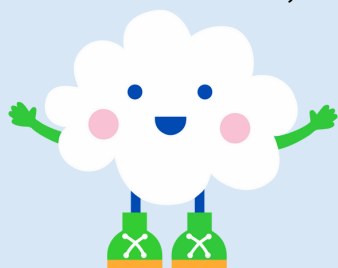
Music & Movement

1-2-3-4-5! There were *Five Little Mice*! During this activity, we were invited to sing a rhyme about five mice, using our fingers to represent the mice and performing actions mentioned in the song. This activity aimed to deepen our understanding of common words through song, while also reinforcing counting skills and promoting participation in classroom routines. As we learned the words and actions, we developed confidence in our abilities, enhancing their vocabulary and numerical understanding in a playful, interactive setting.



Physical Development

Today we discovered *Shapes All Around Us* which involved us playing an outdoor game where we matched bean bags to corresponding shapes drawn on the ground. Aimed at enhancing shape recognition and physical coordination, we identified shapes like circles and squares, aiming and throwing bean bags at these shapes. This engaging exercise not only promoted physical activity but also reinforced cognitive skills such as shape identification and language development in a fun, interactive way.



Language & Literacy

Engaged with the familiar song to connect emotions with environmental print, such as emotion cards and a poster, during our *Environmental Print: 'If You're Happy and You Know It* activity. We practiced identifying and matching emotions with words and symbols on the poster, enhancing our literacy skills. This activity integrated music, movement, and literacy, allowing us to express emotions through song while learning to recognize and request words to be read aloud. The use of emotion cards encouraged us to actively participate in identifying feelings, fostering self-awareness and vocabulary development.

STEAM

What happens to *Crayons in the Sun*, today we discovered the effects of sunlight on crayons. We started by choosing crayon pieces, commenting on their texture, and predicting outcomes when exposed to sunlight. Placed in cups and set in sunny spots, we observed the crayons for changes, noting temperature differences and the softening of wax. Through this activity, we engaged in discussions about physical changes, experiencing firsthand how heat affects matter. This exploration not only fostered our scientific understanding but also encouraged collaboration, curiosity, and the development of vocabulary related to physical properties and transformations.