



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 49 | Day 1



Physical Development

Yummy in my tummy! Today we got to make our snack, *Banana Cracker Sandwiches*! As we created our snack we had the chance to enhance our vocabulary related to eating and food while we engaged in a hands-on task. We practiced shape recognition and fine motor skills as we cut bananas into slices and assembled them. This activity also encouraged us to express our preferences and participate in clean-up, fostering self-regulation and self-awareness. Making our snack was a fun and interactive way for us to understand concepts related to nutrition and enjoy a healthy snack we prepared ourselves!



Music & Movement

We got to dance and sing "*I Can Do It By Myself*" by JunyTony, which was a song that helped us focus on correct pronoun usage! We used hand movements corresponding to daily tasks like putting on socks or brushing our teeth, connecting the song to our regular daily activities. This activity not only fostered self-awareness but also supported language acquisition and creative expression. We also demonstrated cognitive development and a growing sense of identity as we were provided with a fun and enriching musical experience!



STEAM

We explored the effects of sunlight on crayons while enhancing our understanding of the basic properties of matter during our *Crayons in the Sun - Part 2*. As we engaged in hands-on exploration, we recalled our previous experience and discussed changes in crayon texture and temperature. Through observation and prediction, we actively participated in scientific inquiry, building vocabulary associated with physical science concepts. This activity provided a rich learning experience, aligning with various developmental standards and fostering a deeper understanding of the world around us.



Language & Literacy

We explored emotions today as we read the book "*How Are You Peeling? Foods with Moods*." During the story, we looked at the illustrations of fruits and vegetables expressing emotions and discussed their feelings. Using real-life examples and picture prompts, we identified and described emotions, fostering social-emotional literacy and self-expression. The activity not only promoted language acquisition but also encouraged self-awareness and empathy. Through interactive storytelling and open discussions, we gained valuable skills in understanding and expressing emotions, laying a foundation for healthy social and emotional development.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 49 | Day 2



Physical Development

What can we do with yarn? We explored nonconventional painting techniques as we discovered how we could *Paint with Yarn*! With the help of our teachers, we dipped yarn in paint, strategically placing it on paper to create colorful patterns. Folding the paper transferred the paint, showcasing fine motor skills as they pressed and rubbed. Through this creative experience, we expressed ourselves artistically observed our artwork, and interacted with our friends, fostering social-emotional growth and curiosity. Ask me about my painting and how I made it!



Language & Literacy

Today our teacher read the book *"I Can Do It Myself"* and then while using child-safe hand mirrors, we explored self-awareness and independence, by discussing what we saw and identifying tasks we could do alone. Through our discussion, we practiced using pronouns like "I," "me," and "mine." After the story we had the opportunity to draw a picture representing our independent actions, further reinforcing our understanding and expression of self-reliance.

This activity not only promoted language comprehension and fine motor skills but also supported social-emotional development by fostering a sense of self-awareness and autonomy.



We were *Rolling, Squishing, and Flattening to the Beat* where we engaged in a fun and rhythmic exploration of playdough while listening to Shakira's "Waka Waka (This Time for Africa)." Playdough helps us practice our fine motor skills by making balls and shapes while experimenting with different methods of rolling, squishing, and flattening to the song's beat. We also had the opportunity to explore concepts of size, quantity, and comparison, enhancing our mathematical understanding and physical development while fostering a sense of self-awareness through the expression of preferences and opinions.

STEAM

Did you know *I Can Use the Balance Scales*? We got to explore the concept of weight by using a balance scale and counting bears. We learned to distinguish which items were heavier or lighter by observing the scale's movement. Through verbal prompting, we made predictions, shared observations, and experimented with balancing the scale by adjusting the bears in the buckets. This activity also promoted turn-taking and verbal communication, allowing us to express our thoughts and work together. This interactive exploration encouraged inquiry, and critical thinking, and introduced basic scientific and mathematical concepts in a playful, engaging activity.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 49 | Day 3



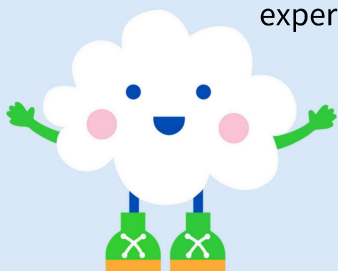
Language & Literacy

We read the book *"Balancing Act"* by Ellen Stoll Walsh. During the story, we made connections between our previous day's experience with a balancing scale and the book's theme of balancing. During the story we made predictions and discussed the story's events, focusing on concepts like weight, balance, and the consequences of adding more items to one side. Reading new stories supports our growing vocabulary development, encourages participation in group discussions, and reinforces our understanding of basic physical science concepts, contributing to their cognitive and social-emotional development.



Physical Development

Who needs paintbrushes when *I Can Paint With My Fingers*? We explored finger painting as we got to use our fingers to draw on paper with various colors of paint. This hands-on activity aimed to foster physical development and sensory exploration, providing options like brushes or gloves for those uncomfortable with paint on their skin. Emphasizing the process over the final product, the activity encouraged self-expression and curiosity, while we discussed our creations and experiences. This approach supported our creativity, language skills, and self-awareness, making it an enriching experience for us!



STEAM

We discovered *I Can Make It Move!* We explored the concepts of balance through hands-on experimentation with levers, fulcrums, and various objects. After reading *"Balancing Act"* by Ellen Stoll Walsh, we were invited to engage with simple tools like rulers and blocks to lift teddy bears, observing how different positions of the fulcrum were affected by our efforts. We experimented with objects of different weights to see which were easier or harder to lift, fostering our scientific inquiry skills. During this activity, we not only enhanced our understanding of basic physics but also supported our social-emotional development by encouraging self-control and curiosity.



Music & Movement

During our *I'm Forever Painting Bubbles* activity today, we enjoyed painting and moving to the rhythm of *"I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles"* by Doris Day. We used cardboard tubes and paint to create bubble murals on paper, swaying to the waltz beat. This activity combined music, movement, and art, allowing us to express ourselves creatively while developing an understanding of musical timing. This also fostered both artistic expression and physical coordination, promoting social and emotional growth as we worked together on a shared project.



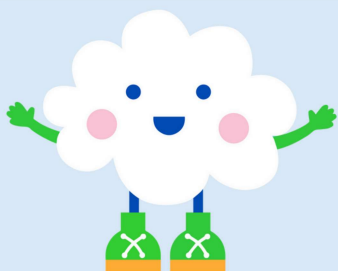
Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 49 | Day 4



We had a dance party with two versions of the song "*I'm a Believer*." First, we danced to the original version by The Monkees. It was super fun and we even got to wear jingle bell bracelets that made sounds as we moved! Then, we switched it up and danced to a different version by Smash Mouth. It was cool to see how the same song can sound so different and make us want to dance in new ways. Afterward, we talked about which version of the song we liked best. Dancing to two types of music was the best part of our day!



We enjoyed an outdoor reading experience where we read some of our favorite books *Under the Trees* outside. We also brought some of our favorite stuffed animals to "read" to, where practiced turning pages and picking a favorite story to share. Practicing "reading" not only supports literacy and language development but also fosters a love for reading in a relaxed, natural environment. This activity bolsters our initiative, self-direction, and self-awareness as we discover our personal reading preferences while respecting those of others.



I Can Balance a Bean Bag! During this activity, we each got our bean bag to balance on different parts of our body like our heads, shoulders, and even our hands and feet! We tried hard to keep the bean bags from falling off, counting together to see if we could keep them balanced for five seconds. Some of us even came up with new ideas on where to balance them. If we needed help, our teacher was there to give us a hand. It was awesome to see how still we could be and how we could move carefully to the music playing in the background. Plus, we learned new words and got to practice counting. It was a super cool way to play and learn at the same time!

STEAM

What's the note? Today we experimented with *Changing Notes* -while using *Musical Jars*, where we used jars filled with varying levels of water. We discovered by gently tapping the jars with spoons, the sounds, or notes, changed with each jar. Through this activity, we experimented with high and low notes, learning that the amount of water affects the sound each jar makes. This hands-on exploration not only fostered scientific inquiry and creative expression but also enhanced our sensory experiences. As we shared our musical discoveries with peers, we practiced self-expression and developed our understanding of physical science principles.



Older Toddler Daily Learning Highlights Week 49 | Day 5



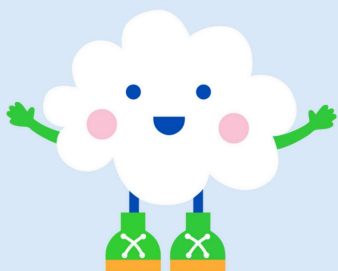
Language & Literacy

We discovered how unique and special each of us is by diving into Nancy Carlson's book, *"I Like Me!"* After reading, we got to show off our creativity by drawing our pictures. We talked about what we liked about ourselves and shared our drawings. It was so cool to see everyone's unique ideas come to life on paper. We learned that it's super important to love ourselves and take care of ourselves, just like the characters in the story. And the best part? We realized that making art isn't just fun, it's also a way to be kind to ourselves.



Music & Movement

Today we had a ton of fun tapping rhythm sticks to the beats of *"Tap Your Sticks"* by Hap Palmer. We practiced making sounds fast, slow, loud, and quiet, then followed the song's instructions to tap in the air, on the floor, and even shake the sticks above our heads! We sang along, learned to control our sticks without hitting anyone, and practiced being aware of our space. It was a great way to learn about following directions, listening, and expressing ourselves with music. What a fun day of making music together!



STEAM

I learned *I Can Make New Colors!* We turned into little scientists, mixing red, yellow, and blue to discover new colors like orange, green, and purple. It was like magic! We discovered how to mix primary colors using tools like droppers, spoons, and forks to create new hues, sparking our curiosity and experimentation skills. By working both independently and collaboratively, we shared ideas and explored the art of mixing, not just with water and food coloring, but also with art materials like crayons and markers. This activity not only enhanced our understanding of color theory but also bolstered our independence, teamwork, and observation skills. It was an amazing journey into the endless possibilities of color, teaching us valuable lessons in science, art, and the joy of discovery.



Physical Development

We played *I Can Roll the Ball* outside and it was super fun! We each got to choose a friend and then we tried rolling the playground balls back and forth, trying to keep them going straight. Sometimes the balls rolled super slow, and sometimes they zoomed fast! Some of us even tried rolling the ball faster or slower, just to see what would happen. It was a bit tricky at first, but we got better at it and had a blast playing together. Plus, it was cool to see how we can control the speed of the ball with a little practice. We all learned that playing together is not just about the game, but also about figuring out how to make it work so everyone has fun.