



EXTRA ACTIVITY IDEAS

QUICK REFERENCE SHEET



Babies



Baby's first play with water:

Perhaps your little one hasn't played with water yet, well today is going to be the day. On a baking tray pour a small amount of water, your baby should start exploring and splashing the water straight away. Then add in plastic spoons, they might want to move the spoon around the water or pick the spoon up and put in their mouth. See if they can bang the spoon on the tray, you will see water flying which usually ends in your little one giggling. Allow them to explore and just observe them.

Squeezing pom poms:

For this water activity you will need pom poms in an assortment of sizes and a large container of water. Always remember when your baby is playing with water to always be around to supervise them. Place all your pom poms into your container filled with water, watch your baby wanting to try and grab the wet pom poms. They might get a little fright at first, but soon they will try and reach for all the pom poms. Using their small muscles in their fingers, see if they can squeeze the pom poms. Water should pour out of the pom poms. You can even try and squeeze two pom poms at the same time.



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Hand print sand art:

You will need white glue, sand, paint colour of your choice and thick paper. Mix all the ingredients together, then allow your baby time to explore the sand. It will be wet, sticky and messy, but mess is best. You might want to do this activity outside. Once you have allowed time for your baby to explore, dip their hand into the sand and make hand prints on your piece of paper. This can be used as a card for someone who has a birthday coming up.

Sand bottle shaker:

This multi function activity can be used as a musical instrument or as a rolling ball. First allow time for your baby to explore the sand, feel it, rub it against their fingers, allow them to stand in it. See if they can help you and fill a water bottle or coldrink bottle half way with the sand. Make sure the lid is on tightly, show them how to shake it and sing your baby's favourite song with them. You can also use your bottle as a rolling ball, demonstrate to your baby how to roll it backwards and forwards.



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Toddlers



Sailing your boat:

Every day we go through so much plastic, well now we get to use that plastic to make a sailing boat. With your toddler collect any plastic recycling you have at home. (Milk containers, yoghurt cups, vegetable pallets, straws, polystyrene containers, anything you find you can make work) Allow your toddler time to first explore the recycling you found. Talk about the materials you found, size, colour and texture. With your help try and construct a boat. Stick a straw or stick in the middle of your plastic container to make a mast. Use your imagination and be creative, Allow your toddler to take the lead and you guide them. Once your boat is complete, get a container and fill it with water, see if your boat can float. You can take a video and send it to your facilitator.

What floats and what sinks:

Lets experiment and see what can float and what sinks to the bottom when you put it in water. You will need a large container filled with water and objects collected from around your house. Walk around your house with your toddler and collect items you'd like to test out. Allow your toddler to take the lead. You can collect things like blocks, plastic toys, crayons, corks, a wooden spoon, tooth brush, flowers, rock. Once you have all your objects talk to your little one about the size, colour, shape, texture, temperature of each object. Once you have finished discussing each object allow your toddler to place it in water. Observe and see which items float and which items sink. remove the insect and see the imprint on the play dough.



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Toddlers



Nanny 'n me
growing together

Water hand and foot prints:

This activity best works outside, either on the bricks or tiles. Start by splashing your toddlers feet in water, they can kick the water and just enjoy the water between their toes. You can use a large container for them to stand in. Then its time to make our footprints! Explain to your toddler when they step out of the water and onto the dry patio they should be able to see their footprints behind them. The sun might dry your footprints quickly so make sure they can see their footprints. See if you can count your wet footprint toes. If you are doing it with your toddler you can also talk about the size between your and your toddlers footprint, who has the bigger feet? Why not try with your hands next.

Sand painting. Messy, fun and sticky sand painting:

You will need white glue, sand, paint colour of your choice and thick paper. It is best to do this activity outdoors. Ask your toddler to scoop some sand into a container and pour a small amount of paint and glue into the same container. Using a spoon or their fingers ask them to mix, mix and mix. You want your sand to be mixed evenly. Then it's time to paint, See what your toddler can do, lines, circles, even squiggles, allow them to have free play and do what they desire. You can even write your toddlers name in bubble letters and see if they can paint in the letters.