



AT HOME ACTIVITIES FOR 4-YEAR OLDS

Language Activities

- Encourage your child to think about what makes him or her special. Brainstorm different things such as, "I play soccer," or "I am a big brother/sister." Trace your child's hand on a piece of colorful construction paper. Invite your child to cut out the handprint and glue it to a white sheet of paper. Encourage your child to write one word or draw a picture on each finger to represent the facts that make him or her special. If needed, help your child by taking dictation and encouraging him or her to decorate the hand.
- Invite your child to use blocks or other small toys to form letters of the alphabet. Provide him or her with letter cards to use as examples.

Creative Arts

- Invite your child to make fingerprint art. Press your child's finger onto a stamp pad or color the pad of his or her finger with a marker. Firmly press his or her finger onto a piece of paper. Talk about how everyone has a different fingerprint that helps to make them unique. Invite your child to decorate his or her fingerprint to look like a person or animal. Use fine-tip markers to draw eyes, a nose, a mouth, ears, and hair on the fingerprints.
- Gather a bunch of crayons in various colors. Take a moment to discuss or share a video from the Internet on how crayons are made. Give your child a paper plater or piece of white paper. Invite him or her to color the entire plate with a variety of colors, filling in the whole plate with color. Then color over top of the colors with a black crayon, covering the entire colored section. Provide your child with a tooth pick or unsharpened pencil to "scratch" off the black crayon, revealing the color underneath.

Cognitive Activities

- Invite your child to join in a pattern parade. Walk through the room demonstrating a clap-stomp-clap-stomp pattern and invite your child to follow you and copy what you do. Repeat the activity with various simple patterns of movements that make noise, such as snapping, leg tapping, clapping above their heads, or hopping. Challenge your child to count along to the pattern. Vary your voice as you count, for example: whisper voice, loud voice, whisper voice, loud voice. Encourage your child to count with you while copying the pattern.