

AT HOME ACTIVITIES FOR TODDLERS



Language Activities

- Gather two similar toys such as puppets, stuffed animals, or plastic people. Sit with your child, and hand him or her one of the toys, while you keep the other one. Make your toy “talk” to your child’s toy: Hello! I am a teddy bear, and I love to give hugs. Can I give you a hug? Encourage your child to make his or her toy “talk” back to your toy: Does your bear want to talk to my bear?

Cognitive Activities

- Place approximately ten different toy cars, plastic eggs, or other toddler-safe, like-items in a group on the floor. Invite your child to join you to examine the objects. Challenge your child to sort the objects in various way. For example, Let’s sort the cars! We will put blue cars over here and red cars over here. Place a blue car and a red car on either side of the pile and encourage your child to sort the cars.
- Invite your children to stand with you as you sing “Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.” Encourage your child to act it out with you and point to each body part, slowly. Take turns with your child to first identify the body part to which you will be pointing.

Creative Arts

- Invite your child to choose a piece of sidewalk chalk and make marks on wet outdoor surfaces such as a sidewalk (the color will be brighter than usual due to the wet surface). If the surface is not already wet, encourage your child to dip the chalk in a bowl of water and then make marks with the chalk. Your child may also be interested in smearing the chalk colors together with his or her hand.
- Encourage your child to choose a piece of paper and a marker or crayon. Turn on classical or jazz music, and prompt your child to color to the music. Engage your child in conversations about his or her drawings and discuss the music (talk about the pace, the volume, the instruments, etc.) Talk with your child about how the music makes her or him feel.