

Celebrating Summer Activities for Week Four

Story Time

'The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear' by Don Wood.

How will the Little Mouse get the Big Bear to not eat his strawberry?

Early Language Tips:

- Using a story with opposite word pairs helps children to see the difference between things like big and small, short and tall, etc.
- Use the story to talk about the size difference of animals and then compare it to the people your child knows. Who is bigger/taller? Who is smaller or shorter?

'The Teddy Bears' Picnic

The teddy bears are having a picnic, based on a classic song.

Early Language Tips:

- A picnic can be a fun summertime activity. Talk with your child about what is happening in the story.
- Ask questions like, "What did the bears bring with them?" "What do you think they will do on their picnic?" "Who else might join them?"

'Mouse's First Summer' by Lauren Thompson

Explore the summer with Mouse and Minka.

Early Language Tips:

- Books are a great way to talk about places you may go that are new experiences for your child.
- Using a book to talk about what you might do when you go somewhere new can help your child understand a little better what to expect.

On the Move

Ice Cream Toss

How many scoops do you see?

Materials:

- Balls
- Empty basket

Instructions:

1. Place a ball within your baby's reach and an empty basket on its side a few feet away.
2. Encourage and assist your baby in reaching for, touching, grasping, tapping, hitting, etc. the ball.
3. Encourage and assist your baby in tapping the ball towards the basket.
4. Encourage your baby to track the ball's movement and watch when it rolls into the basket.
5. Narrate your, your baby, and the ball's actions and discuss what's happening.

Adaptations:

- For crawling infants:
 - Encourage your baby in reaching for and tapping or hitting the ball towards the basket.
 - Encourage your baby to follow the ball and repeat.
 - Narrate your, your baby, and the ball's actions and discuss what's happening.
- For walking infants:
 - Place an empty basket and a few "ice cream scoops" (balls) near your child.
 - Encourage your child to throw the balls into the basket.
 - Encourage your child to try throwing the ball from different points, distances, etc.

GELDS code for lesson plans: PDM4.0b

Lemonade Scoop

Let's make some lemonade!

Materials:

- Plastic container
- Yellow food coloring
- *Optional:* lemon slices, cups, large spoons, ladle, etc.

Instructions:

1. Fill a plastic container with a few inches of water.
2. Place the container near your baby.
3. With your baby's attention, add a few drops of yellow food coloring into the water.
4. Encourage and assist your baby with reaching in to mix the water with their hands, fingers, and arms.
5. Narrate your and your baby's actions and talk about the water changing colors.

Adaptations:

- For walking infants:
 - Fill a plastic container with water and add lemon slices.
 - Place a large spoon and a few cups next to the container.
 - Encourage your child to use the spoon to scoop out water and lemon slices to pour into the cups to create lemonade.

GELDS code for lesson plans: PDM5.0a

Berry Roll

Let's roll over!

Materials:

- Free floor space
- *Optional:* balls

Instructions:

1. Gently lay your baby down.
2. Gently assist your baby in rolling their body left and right, over on to their stomach, on their back, etc.

3. Encourage and assist your baby to roll over or wiggle independently.
4. Narrate your baby's actions as they roll.

Adaptations:

- For crawling and walking infants:
 - Scatter a few balls around the play area.
 - Encourage your baby to pick a ball and tap or kick it to send "the berry" rolling.
 - Encourage your baby to move quickly around the balls and see how many they can get rolling at one time.

GELDS code for lesson plans: PDM5.0b

Math and Technology

Mouse Masterpiece

Draw your very own mouse friend.

Materials:

- Paper
- Fingerpaint

Instructions:

1. After reading the two mouse themed stories this week with your child, examine the mice in both books together. Talk about the different shapes, characteristics, colors, and features that you notice. What makes each mouse special?
2. Assist your baby in painting their own mouse. Encourage them to choose the colors for their mouse masterpiece and work with their fingers to make different shapes to make up their mouse art.
3. Have fun and get messy together!

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-SC3.1b

Shady Picnic

Find a cool spot outside to relax together and have a picnic.

Materials:

- Blanket
- Infant's bottle or food
- *Optional:* Small portable fan

Instructions:

1. Take your baby outside and have a summer picnic together! Bring a blanket and your child's bottle or meal outside. Find a shady spot where everyone can stay cool and lay your blanket on the ground.
2. Sit together on the blanket and feed your baby. While you feed them, stay close to them and talk about the different things that you can see together from your blanket outside.
3. Talk about any insects, shapes, colors, clouds, plants, or interesting things that you see outside.

Adaptations:

- Please adapt this activity to fit the dietary needs and normal routines of the baby/babies in your care.

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-SC1.1a

Summer Sizes

Welcome summer and all the sports that come with it.

Materials:

- A variety of different sports balls (ex: basketball, football, tennis ball, golf ball, pickleball, etc.)
- Basket

Instructions:

1. Fill a basket with a variety of different sports balls. Encourage your infant to dump the basket out on the floor and examine what is inside.
2. Explore the different kinds of sports balls with your baby. Talk about what each one could be used for and encourage your infant to roll, kick, throw, hold, and feel the different balls.
3. Put the different balls in order from smallest to largest ball or sort them by big and small balls. Talk to your baby about the different colors of each ball. Explore the weight of each ball and discuss if it is heavy or light.

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-MA3.1a

Sensory Time

Paper Toss

Can you toss it in?

Materials:

- Basket, bin or box
- Paper balls

Instructions:

1. Hold or sit next to the infant and help them toss the paper balls into the basket.

Adaptations:

- For walking infants:
 - Sit or kneel next to standing infant

GELDS code for lesson plans: APL 3.2d

Bubble Fun

How many can you pop?

Materials:

- 1 cup of distilled water
- 2 tbsp of dish soap (blue dawn works best)
- 1 tbsp of glycerin (found with the cake decorating or soap making items)
- 1 tbsp of white corn syrup

Instructions:

1. Make ahead by combining all ingredients and let sit in the fridge for 24hrs.
2. Blow bubbles using a bubble wand and let your infant try to pop them.

GELDS code for lesson plans: SC1.1a

Bubble Wrap Painting

Time to get creative.

Materials:

- White construction paper
- Bubble wrap
- Variety of paint colors
- Paint brush

Instructions:

1. Cut bubble wrap into paper size squares.
2. Hold or sit next to your infant and help them paint the bubble wrap.
3. Flip bubble wrap painted side down onto paper and let your infant help pat it down.
4. Remove bubble wrap from the paper and admire your art!

GELDS code for lesson plans: APL5.2b

Arts and Creativity

Dramatic Play Summer Picnic

Enjoy a pretend picnic with your infants whether inside or out!

Materials:

- Blankets
- Pretend foods or pictures of foods
- Pretend plates, spoons, and cups

Instructions:

1. Either inside or outside, lay a blanket down on the floor.
2. Place pretend food items and/or pictures of foods, pretend plates, spoons, and cups on the blanket.
3. Assist your infant with manipulating the items that they see.
4. Talk with your infant about the different things that they interact with.
5. Have fun having a pretend picnic with your child!

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-CR4.1d

Mr. Sun Movement Song

Enjoy moving and dancing along to this familiar tune!

Materials:

- None

Instructions:

1. Sing lyrics below, acting out words in italics.

Oh, mister sun, sun, mister golden sun (*Make a circle with hands*).

Please shine down on me (*Spread fingers out and bring hands down*).

Oh, mister sun, sun, mister golden sun (*Make a circle with hands*).

Hiding behind a tree (*Cover eyes*).

These little children are asking you to please come out so we can play with you (*Hands together and move them up and down*).

Oh, mister sun, sun, mister golden sun (*Make a circle with hands*).

Please shine down on me (*Spread fingers out and bring hands down*).

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-CR3.0a

Fruit Basket Fun

Gather and learn about different types of fruits!

Materials:

- 3-4 large baskets
- Pictures or images of real fruits

Instructions:

1. Fill the large baskets with pictures of different types of fruits.
2. Take turns with your infants taking out the fruit pictures and describing their name, shape, and colors.

Adaptations:

- For crawling infants:
 - Take the pictures out of the basket and place them near the infant for them to reach and grab.
- For walking infants:
 - Provide the infant with a basket full of photos of fruits and allow them to put in/pull out the photos.

GELDS code for lesson plans: CD-CR2.0b or CD-CR2.1b