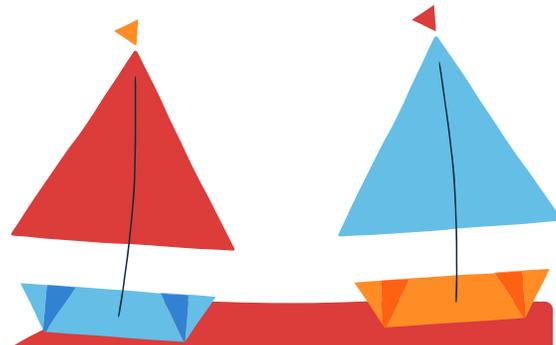
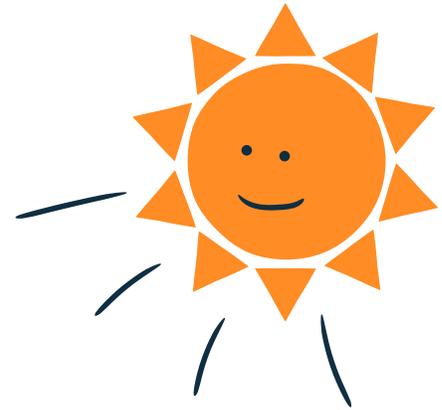


At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers (0–2 years old)

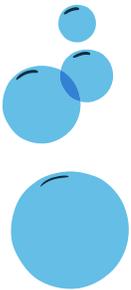
Week of June 29, 2020



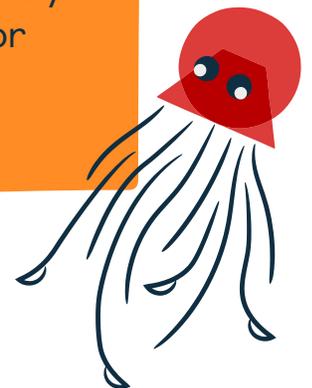
This week concludes our exploration of **Wonderful Water** with a week full of fun activities that will help you and your little one beat the heat while building skills!



This week, our littlest learners get creative learning about ocean animals; get the wiggles out as they row, row, row their own boat; experiment with tissue paper and water, and explore different ways to make water move.



Take advantage of nice weather by taking these activities **outdoors!** You can make easy modifications by pulling out the wading pool and the sidewalk chalk for some fun in the sun.



This Week's Theme:

Wonderful Water

What you'll find in this guide. . .

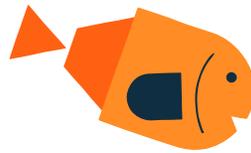
Summer is here, and we've got you covered with activities that will keep your little one learning and having fun all summer long! This guide contains activities for infants and toddlers, with suggestions on how to make the same activity fun and educational, whether you have a cuddly baby or a rambunctious toddler! Click on the icons below to discover more...



EXPRESS YOURSELF

In Living Color

Your little one discovers what happens when tissue paper meets water!



GET THE WIGGLES OUT

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

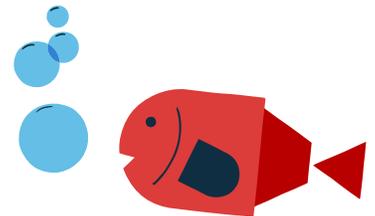
Introduce your child to everyone's favorite dreamy boat song!



GET THE WHEELS TURNING

Baby Boat Builder

It's not a box...it's a boat!



EXPRESS YOURSELF

Aquatic Art

Learn about animals that live in the ocean, and then draw them!



BUILDING FLEXIBLE BRAINS

Watch How Water Works

Experiment with household gadgets and explore all the things you can make water do!



FOCUS ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Help your child develop important social-emotional skills by working on your family project! This week, we invite your family to explore the theme **Who Are the Helpers?**

At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

Week of June 29, 2020

Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

In Living Color:

- Small dish of water
- Sheet of white construction paper
- Different colors of tissue paper, cut into 2-inch squares

Row, Row, Row Your Boat:

- Lyrics to "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"

Baby Boat Builder:

- 1 Large box (a laundry basket will work if you don't have a box)
- Crayons or markers
- [Pictures of boats](#)

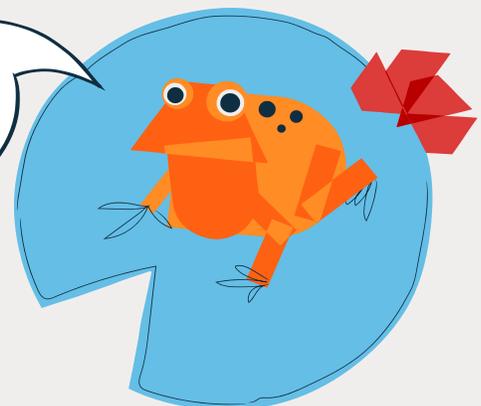
Aquatic Art:

- Paper
- Crayons or markers
- [Pictures of ocean animals](#)
- Sidewalk chalk (optional)

Watch How Water Works:

- Large tub (this activity can also be done at the sink, in the bath, or in a wading pool!)
- Assorted gadgets that water can flow through: colanders, basters, water wheels, spray bottles, repurposed soap bottles filled with water, cups, funnels, etc.

Tip: At the beginning of your week, gather materials and place them in a container so you're ready to go!



At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

Week of June 29, 2020



Express Yourself: In Living Color

Your little one discovers what happens when tissue paper meets water!



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** High



Level of Prep Required: High



What you need:

- Small dish of water
- Sheet of white construction paper
- Different colors of tissue paper, cut into 2-inch squares

About the Activity:

Set the water, construction paper, and tissue paper squares on a table or tray-top where your child can work. Talk with them about the materials you've gathered, pointing out the water, the construction paper, and the tissue paper squares. Encourage them to interact with the materials. If they're curious about the water, encourage them to get their fingers wet. If they're fascinated by the texture of the tissue paper, let them scrunch the squares in their fingers! After you've spent some time exploring the materials, model how to dip the tissue paper pieces in water and place them on the white construction paper. After a few minutes, help your child carefully lift the tissue paper from the construction paper. What do they notice now about their sheet of paper?

For Your Infant:

Infants enjoy the opportunities for sensory play this activity offers. They probably won't be as interested in the process of dipping the tissue paper squares and placing them on the construction paper as toddlers will be, but they will be very curious about the materials and they'll want to explore them with all their senses. Explore with your baby and model the process of dipping, placing, and then removing tissue paper squares. Does your baby seem interested? Older babies may want to give it a try! But if they don't, no biggie—exploration is what being a baby is all about, so follow their lead!

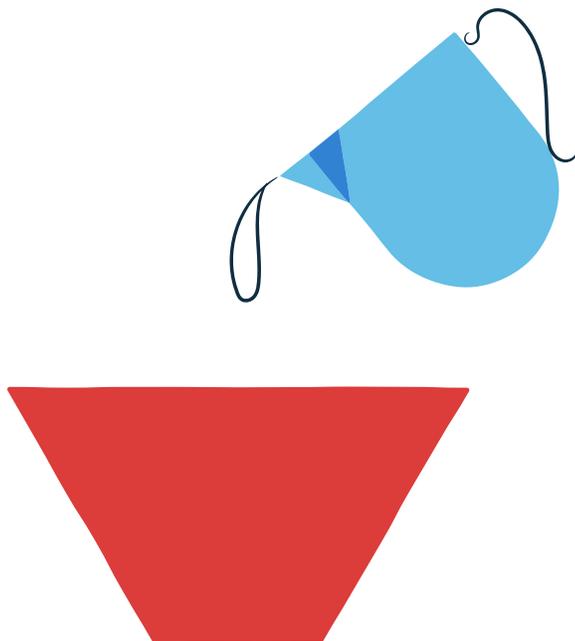
At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

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For Your Toddler:

Toddlers will be intrigued by the colorful tissue paper and the water and will have all sorts of interesting ideas of their own when it comes to how to use them! Encourage them to follow their curiosity and comment on what you notice them doing with the materials. As you model dipping the tissue paper into water and placing it on the white paper, are they paying attention? Do they want to try it themselves? Is it hard for them to pick up the thin tissue squares in their fingers? Do they recognize the colors they see? Talk with your child about what they see on the paper after removing the tissue paper. Ask them questions like:

- What do you see on the white paper after lifting off the tissue paper?
- Why is the paper different colors now?
- What happened to the tissue paper when it got wet?



At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

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Get the Wiggles Out: Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Introduce your child to everyone's favorite dreamy boat song!



Length of activity:
10 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** Medium



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- Lyrics to "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"



About the Activity:

With your child in your lap, sing "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Then, sing it again, gently swaying back and forth with them as you sing, simulating the motion of being gently rowed down a stream.

For Your Infant:

If they enjoy that, you can ask your baby if you can hold their hands and show them how to row. If they're still having fun and are responsive to your question, gently hold their hands and show them how to make rowing motions.

"Row, Row, Row, Your Boat"

Row, row, row your boat,

Gently down the stream.

Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,

Life is but a dream.



For Your Toddler:

If they enjoy that, show them how to pretend to row a boat, and encourage them to imitate you.



At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

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Get the Wheels Turning: Baby Boat Builder

It's not a box...it's a boat!



Length of activity:

15 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: Medium



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- 1 Large box (a laundry basket will work if you don't have a box)
- Crayons or markers
- [Pictures of boats](#)

About the Activity:

Show your child [pictures](#) of boats and talk with them about the different kinds of boats. Describe the shapes and colors you see and anything your child expresses interest in.

For Your Infant:

Show your baby the box and let them explore it with all their senses. What do they do with it? Do they push it? Pull it? Use it to pull to stand? Suggest to your baby that the box is a boat and ask them if they'd like to sit in it. If they seem agreeable, put your baby inside the box. Move the box gently around the floor, describing whether the "boat" is going fast or slow, or forward or backward. If they don't want to get inside the box, that's OK! Encourage them to try making the boat move from the outside. If you're already familiar with "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" you can sing the song to them as you play with the boat.

For Your Toddler:

Show your toddler the box and let them explore it with all their senses. What do they do with it? Do they push it? Pull it? Use it to pull to stand? Suggest to your toddler that the box is a boat and remind them of the boats they saw in the pictures. Ask them if they'd like to sit in it. If they're interested, put your toddler inside the box. Move the box gently around the floor, describing whether the "boat" is going fast or slow, or forward or backward. If they don't want to get inside the box, that's OK! Encourage them to try making the boat move from the outside. If you're already familiar with "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" you can sing the song to them as you play with the boat. Show them the crayons or markers and ask them if they'd like to decorate their boat. As they color, talk with them about the colors you see them using and what you notice about their artwork. If you want, you can cut holes in the side and tell your child that the windows on a boat are called "portholes." As you play, ask your child questions like, "What kind of boat are you traveling in? Where are you going in your boat?" or "What do you see from the portholes? Do you see any whales or dolphins?"



Canoe



Tugboat



Sailboats

At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

Week of June 29, 2020



Express Yourself: Aquatic Art

Learn about animals that live in the ocean, and then draw them!



Length of activity:
10 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** Medium



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- Paper
- Crayons or markers
- [Pictures of ocean animals](#)
- Sidewalk chalk (optional)

About the Activity: Show your little one the [pictures](#) of the ocean animals. Talk with them about what they see, paying special attention to anything that grabs their attention. Describe what you see them expressing interest in. Tell them the names of each animal and encourage them to try and repeat them. Then show your child the paper and crayons or markers and tell them that together you're going to draw some ocean animals.

For Your Infant: Model how to draw one of the ocean animals in the pictures. Talk with them about what you're doing: which shapes and colors you're using, and what types of lines you're using to draw the different parts of the animal's body. Don't worry about your own artistic skills – your baby won't judge! Encourage them to pick up a crayon and try it for themselves. For infants, the primary purpose of this activity is exposure to the experience of working with art materials and being introduced to ocean animals. Your baby may not be able to repeat the names of animals back to you or know what do with a crayon yet, and that's OK! Babies learn from every experience they have, so even though they can't yet say "dolphin," much less draw one, this activity will introduce them to new concepts, skills, and vocabulary, and give them some important fine-motor practice.

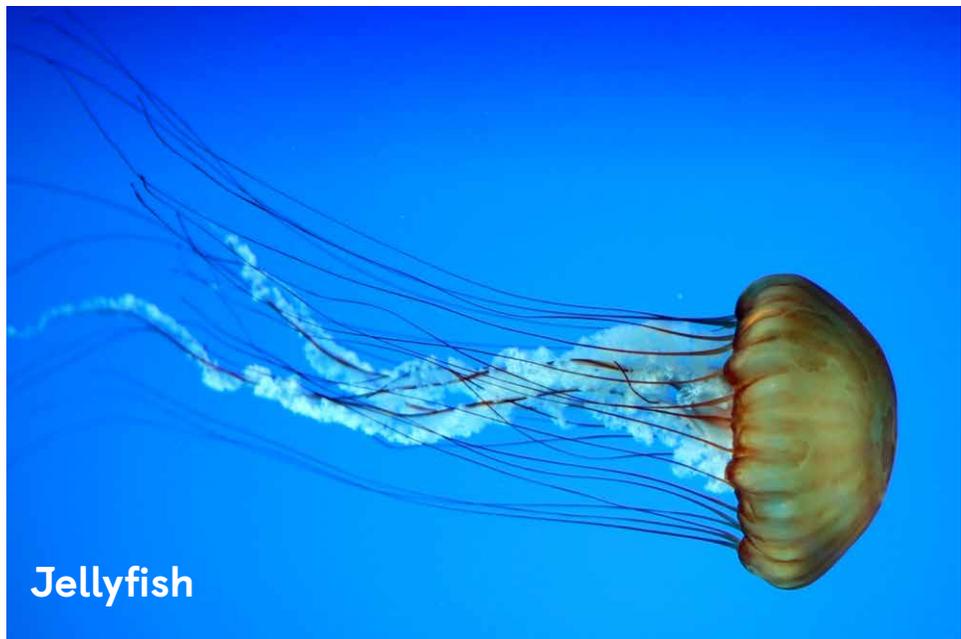
For Your Toddler: Model for your toddler how to draw one of the ocean animals in the pictures. Talk with them about what you're doing: which shapes and colors you're using, and what types of lines you're using to draw the different parts of the animal's body. Don't worry about your own artistic skills – your kiddo won't judge! Encourage them to pick up a crayon and try it for themselves. This is a foundational activity for toddlers. This activity is familiarizing them with animals that live in the ocean, and the concept that different animals live in the ocean than live on land. It's also helping your toddler understand that they can create representations of objects. And activities like these help them develop the fine-motor skills that they'll eventually use to write letters and words. As you draw with your child, ask them questions like, "What are you drawing a picture of? What colors are you using to draw your big whale?" or "What is your favorite ocean animal? Why?" If you have sidewalk chalk, you can take this activity outdoors and draw your animals on the pavement!



Dolphins



Sea Turtle



Jellyfish

At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

Week of June 29, 2020



Building Flexible Brains: Watch How Water Works

Experiment with household gadgets and explore all the things you can make water do!



Length of activity:
20 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High



Level of Prep Required: Medium



What you need:

- Large tub (this activity can also be done at the sink, in the bath, or in a wading pool!)
- Assorted gadgets that water can flow through: Colanders, basters, water wheels, spray bottles, repurposed soap bottles filled with water, cups, funnels, etc.

About the Activity: This activity can be done in a variety of ways. You can fill a plastic container with water and explore at a tabletop or on the ground. If its warm out, take it outside or do it in a wading pool. You can even do it in the bath!

For Your Infant: Show your baby how the different gadgets work. Some of them, like the baster, they may not be able to make “work” yet, but they’ll enjoy watching what happens when you make exciting things happen, and they’ll enjoy exploring the materials and seeing what they can do. As you play with your baby, tell them the names of the different objects, and use descriptive vocabulary to narrate what you see happening: introduce words like drip, trickle, pour, flow, and so on.

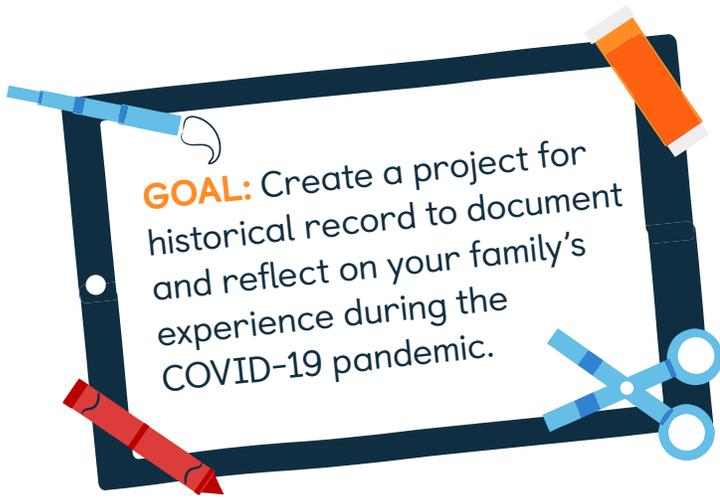
For Your Toddler: Show your toddler the different gadgets, modeling how some of the trickier objects work. Some of them, like the baster, they may not be able to make “work” yet, but they’ll enjoy watching what happens when you make exciting things happen, and they’ll enjoy exploring the materials and seeing what they can do. As you play with your toddler, tell them the names of the different objects, and use descriptive vocabulary to narrate what you see happening: introduce words like drip, trickle, pour, flow, and so on. Encourage them to explore different cause-and-effect scenarios like, “What happens if you pour water in the wheel?” or “What happens when you push on the pump?”

At-Home Summer Guide for Infants and Toddlers

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Focus on Social and Emotional Learning: Family Project

Eight weeks ago we launched [Our Stay-at-Home Story family project](#) to provide a constructive and emotionally healthy way for families to process the ongoing pandemic. Now, with summer underway and communities reopening, it's time to wrap up Our Stay-at-Home Story as families focus on finding their new normal.



We hope that through each of our weekly prompts you've learned things about each other, your neighbors and family, that give you a deeper sense of community and security. In times of uncertainty, they can become your greatest resources to see you safely through.

If you'd like to revisit the prompts we explored, we've compiled them [here](#). You can start, stop, and start again anytime you need fun and creative ways to process what's happening around you. Just take a step back and use these **five themes** to guide you:

- **All the Feels:** Explore and identify your hopes, worries, gratitude, or frustrations.
- **Building Connections:** Find a way to embrace your family and community from a distance.
- **What Is Essential:** Redefine what essential means through your everyday actions.
- **Flexible Mindsets:** How are you learning and growing together as a family?
- **Who Are the Helpers:** Who is helping us? How are we helping others?



As always, we'd love to see what you came up with! Please visit our [KinderCare Facebook page](#) to share any part of your family project so others can learn from and appreciate your experience.