At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers (2 years old)

Week of July 6, 2020

This week’s guide kicks off the theme Wonderful Water! Over the next several weeks the activities will reflect the water-related activities happening in our Discovery Preschool Classrooms. Whether you’ve returned to your center or you’re still learning from home, you and your child can join in on the wonderful world of water!

This week focuses on ways that we use water in our homes; in particular, how water is used to help clean things. Activities include rhymes, poems, and songs about water and different ways it is used. Colorful pictures open the door to conversations about water use, and an opportunity to wash their toys helps build your child’s confidence and sense of independence.

You can extend your child’s experiences by inviting them to help in simple cleaning and washing tasks, such as rinsing fruits and vegetables, using a wet towel or cloth to wipe up a spill, or talking about the ways they use water to stay clean when they wash their hands, take a bath, and brush their teeth.
This Week’s Theme: Wonderful Water

What you’ll find in this guide... We’ve provided activities similar to what your child would be learning in their center. You and your child can choose your own adventures and do the activities in any order you’d like, repeating and revisiting them as often as you want! Click on the icons below to discover more...

**LET’S CHAT**
How is Water Used?
You and your child look at pictures of different ways that people use water and talk about the ways you use water.

**LET’S SING**
Taking a Bath
Sing a song about how you use water when you take a bath.

**LET’S CHAT**
“Water”
Recite a little poem about how water is used morning, noon, and night!

**LET’S RHYME**
“Rub-a-Dub-Dub”
You and your child look at rhyming words in this classic nursery rhyme.

**GAME TIME**
What Do You See?
This game is all about observation skills as your child looks for images that answer a question!

**LET’S EXPLORE**
Toy Wash
Your child explores washing toys using different types of scrubbers.
Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

How Is Water Used?:
- Water Uses pictures

“Water”:
- “Water” poem

Taking a Bath:
- “This is the Way” song lyrics

Rub-a-Dub-Dub:
- “Rub-a-Dub-Dub” rhyme

Toy Wash:
- Assorted scrubbers, sponges, soft-bristle brushes
- Assorted waterproof toys, such as blocks, plastic animals and dolls, cars, and plastic dishes and foods
- Bucket
- Towels
- Water

What Do You See?:
- Collage of red images

Tip: At the beginning of your week, gather materials and place them in a container so you’re ready to go!
Let’s Chat: How Is Water Used?

You and your child look at pictures of different ways that people use water and talk about the ways you use water.

What your child is learning:
- Ways that we use water in our day-to-day experiences
- How to participate in conversations
- How to recall information from prior experiences and relate those ideas to current experiences

What you do: Show your child each picture one at a time. Ask your child to share what’s happening in each picture and how people are using water. Share information about each picture as needed. As you talk about each picture with your child, reinforce the use of water in the picture. After looking at all the pictures, share that all of these pictures show different ways that water is used. Then invite your child to think of other ways that water is used in your home, such as watering plants or washing dishes.

Length of activity: 15 minutes*

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High

Level of Prep Required: Low

What you need:
- Water Uses pictures
Water Uses
Let’s Chat: “Water”
Recite a little poem about how water is used morning, noon, and night!

**“Water”**
Water in the morning,
Standing at the sink.
Fill a cup with water,
So I can have drink.

Water in the afternoon,
Under the hot Sun.
Time to go swimming,
We’ll splash and have some fun.

Water in the evening,
Filling up the tub.
Bath time, clean up,
Scrub-a-dub-dub.

What your child is learning:
- Ways we use water in our day-to-day experiences
- How to use creative movement to share ideas or information

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the poem, “Water.”
Talk with your child about some of the different ways water is used. If you’ve done the activity How Is Water Used?, you can revisit the conversation you and your child had. Tell your child that you have a poem to share with them about three ways that water is used. Recite the poem and ask your child how water was used in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Then talk with your child about what it looks like to drink water, swim and splash, and take a bath. Recite the poem again, inviting your child to add movements to each verse.
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Let’s Sing: Taking a Bath
Sing a song about how you use water when you take a bath.

What your child is learning:
- Ways we use water in our day-to-day experiences
- How to recall information from prior experiences and relate those ideas to current experiences
- Different ways of communicating information, such as through a song

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the song, “This is the Way.” Ask your child about how they use water when they take a bath. Talk through your child’s bath-time routine with them. Tell them that today you’ll sing a song about different ways to use water in the bath. Sing the verse to them once and then a second time, inviting them to join you. Then continue the song using the additional verses or by creating your own verses based on your child’s bath-time routine.

“This Is the Way”
(sung to the tune of “Mulberry Bush”)
This is the way we wash our face,
Wash our face, wash our face,
This is the way we wash our face,
When we take our bath.

Additional verses:
This is the way we wash our hair...
This is the way we wash ourselves...
This is the way we splash in the tub...

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High
Level of Prep Required: Low
What you need:
• “This is the Way” song lyrics (below)

Length of activity: 10 minutes*
*Duration will vary depending on your child’s interest.
Let’s Rhyme: “Rub-a-Dub-Dub”
You and your child look at rhyming words in this classic nursery rhyme.

What your child is learning:
- How to recognize rhyming words
- To hear and discriminate among sounds and syllables in spoken words

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the rhyme, “Rub-a-Dub-Dub.” Invite your child to learn this rhyme about bathing in a tub. Tell them that as you share the rhyme, they should listen for the rhyming words. Explain that rhyming words are words that have the same ending sound, like cat and mat, and me and see. Say the rhyme once, then repeat it, pausing to discuss which words rhyme, like dub and tub, be and three, and baker and maker. Repeat the rhyme throughout the day or week, encouraging your child to say the rhyme with you once they become familiar with the words.

“Rub-a-Dub-Dub”
Rub-a-dub-dub,
Three men in a tub.
And who do you think they be?
The butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker.
Turn them out, knaves all three!
Let’s Explore: Toy Wash
Your child explores washing toys using different types of scrubbers.

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: High

What you need:
- Assorted scrubbers, sponges, soft-bristle brushes
- Assorted waterproof toys, such as blocks, plastic animals and dolls, cars, and plastic dishes and foods
- Bucket
- Towels
- Water

What your child is learning:
- Ways we use water in our day-to-day experiences
- How to use water and scrubbers as cleaning tools
- How to care for objects and materials

What you do: Set up a toy washing station by filling the bucket two-thirds full of water. To minimize mess, consider placing the bucket in a larger plastic tub, in the shower or bathtub, or doing this activity outside. Place the scrubbers, toys, and towels near the bucket.

Show your child the toy washing station and share that one of the ways people use water is to wash and clean things. Invite your child to explore washing the different toys using the scrubbers and then dry the toys using the towels. As your child explores, talk with them about what they are doing, such as commenting on what toy they are washing, what scrubber they have selected, and how they are using it to wash the toy. If you are outside, invite your child to use the scrubbers and water to clean larger items, such as tables, tricycles, play structures, and outdoor toys. Continue for as long as your child shows interest.
Game Time: What Do You See?
This game is all about observation skills as your child looks for images that answer a question!

Look at the collage of red images on the next page with your child. Invite them to name any of the images they recognize. Then play a game by asking your child “What do you see” questions that they can answer using the images in the collage. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do you see that you can eat?
- What do you see that you can smell?
- What do you see that you can draw with?
- What do you see that blooms?
- What do you see that grows in a garden?
- What do you see that can be used to create art?