

Nursery Level

Play-based activities and crafts to
enjoy at home...

Brought to you by your Beth Emet teachers!

A “Nursery” learning journey...

Here you will find some ideas to play, exercise and work with your child at home. These activities are age-appropriate and we hope you and your child enjoy them together!

Suggested prompt for introducing this book to your child...

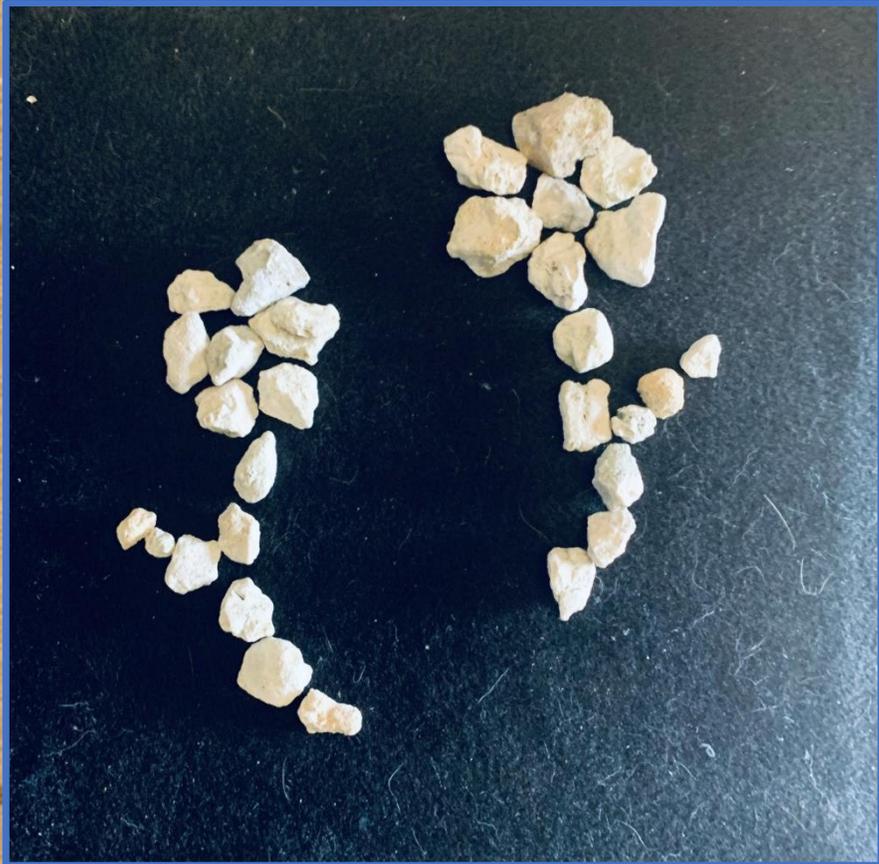
“Your teachers made a book for you. Can you read through it and let me know which ideas you would like to try? I am wondering what page will interest you...”

(We do not expect your child to read this, encouraging reading and allowing them the opportunity to begin to understand this suggestion is important!)

We present activities such as these to Nursery students every day in school...sometimes they do exactly what we ask or expect from the activity, and sometimes they have their own creative thought. We see where this creative thought takes them and we follow their interest. Enjoy these activities...more to come next week!

Rock Garden

Your supplies are rocks of various sizes, paint and glue. Use your imagination! You can make your garden any size. Play around with shapes and patterns. Use rocks with different textures.



Fine Motor Name or Letter Fun

Materials: paper, marker, glue, some kind of small loose parts (beans, rice, broken twigs, cotton balls, oats, Cheerios)

Write your child's name, word or letter in large print with a permanent marker. Your child can squeeze the glue on the lines and curves of the printed letter. Your child can pick up the small items and place on the glued area. Have fun!

This activity promotes letter recognition as well as focus and persistence. Squeezing the glue on a designated area and picking up small objects (and placing them on a designated area) strengthen and increase fine muscle control.



Re-enacting Humpty Dumpty

Materials: blocks (or anything to build with), pretend horses and people (dolls), an egg or pretend egg, some kind of paper or drop cloth if using a real egg, a book with the Humpty Dumpty rhyme or a paper with the Humpty Dumpty rhyme printed out.

Read and recite the Humpty Dumpty rhyme with your child. Point out rhyming words and any letters or words your child recognizes. Ask questions about what they think the nursery rhyme means.

Have your child build a wall, add props, and act out the Humpty Dumpty nursery rhyme. Ask your child questions about what happened to the egg, how they feel, what should they do next. Keep them thinking! You don't need all the answers.

This activity involves many pre-reading skills such as predicting, cause and effect, acquiring vocabulary and recognizing rhyming words. Making a plan and imaginary play are important elements of learning and problem solving.



Guessing Games

The first activity is called “Guess the color!”

A listening game, Here’s how to play, you say a group of things that are all the same color.

Then your child guess the color for example:

Parent: “Apples, Cherries, Strawberries, Tomatoes, Stop Signs.”

Child: “Red!”

Parent: “Grass, Frogs, Leaves, Peas, Celery, The outside of a watermelon.”

Child: “Green!”



The next activity is called “Guess the Wrong Word!”

This game is great to use with nursery rhymes. Say or read the nursery rhyme and use one wrong word ask your child if they heard the wrong word?

For example:

Parent: “Mary had a little lamb whose fleece was white as monkeys.”

Parent: “Twinkle, Twinkle, little house, how I wonder what you are.”

Parent: “ The itsy bitsy turtle crawled up the water sprout.”



Rock Band Activity

How would you like to your own band at home?! Here is a fun way to do it!

Materials needed:

Tissue Boxes, oatmeal containers or any plastic bottle or container

Rice or beans

Any kind of tape (masking, scotch or duct tape)

The first three materials are for making a shaker. You can decorate your shaker however you want.

Pots of different sizes

Metal or wooden spoons

2 Paper towel rolls

Here is what to do:

Follow this link for the drumming/tapping music.

We Can Play Our Drums

<https://youtu.be/oV26Mb3nlu8>

Follow along using your sticks!

Now try playing along with the next song.

Follow this link for the Sandpiper song: <https://youtu.be/uHnRRu1dp2E>

Notice how it changes with different speeds sometimes fast or slow.

Use any instrument your child chooses.

Your child may enjoy playing along with his/her favorite song.

Have fun!



Pom Pom Painting

Materials: Pom poms different sizes. Paint. Paper

The child will dip the different size pom poms and paint on the paper. This teaches the child cause and effect... using big pom poms will result in big dots, and small pom poms will result in smaller paint dots. Also painting with fabric pom poms encourages kids to make specific dots, strokes and designs. This can help build beneficial coordination and creativity.



Math Patterning Activity

This is a fun activity to do with your child!

Materials needed:

Any loose parts you have 3 or more of on hand.

Other options: Pipe cleaners and different colored beads

Small toys: cars, trains, blocks, or any small

Vocabulary:

Pattern - a pattern is anything that is repeated over and over again.

Patterns can be created using different colors, shapes, and or sizes.

Show your child how to create different patterns with the loose parts.

You can start by using the same color but, different sizes, or the same shape, but using two different colors.

Eventually, you can try movement patterns!

For example, use your hands to clap once, and then pat your leg once, and now repeat it two more times.

Then say, okay now you try it. Add in another movement when you see that your child is following and he or she understands.

Emphasize what a pattern is...repeating the same actions over and over.

You can point out patterns in nature, art, music, words, and numbers.

Have fun!

