

Nursery Level

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

Compiled by your TBE 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!

Simon Says

Instruct the children that they are to do what you say only if you first say “Simon says.”

If you say anything without saying “Simon says”....don’t do it!

Here are some ideas: stand, sit, shake your hands, clap, jump around, turn around etc.

Variation: for children four years old and older, whatever Simon says, do the opposite! For example, Simon says, “wiggle your right thumb” child wiggles the opposite thumb. If Simon says, “stand” Child does the opposite and sits. If Simon says, “big” child says the opposite and says “little.”

Benefits of playing “Simon says”:

It’s an excellent way for a child to practice improving his or her body awareness, following and giving directions, and also motor development.



Tic Tac Toe

Benefits of the game: Strategic thinking and negotiating skills. The game helps develop interpersonal understanding; which results in better negotiation of conflicts.

How to play:

We used burlap and rocks to make our game; you could use anything, even paper!

You will need a set of x pieces and o pieces.

One opponent is x the other is o. Take turns placing down your pieces, try to block your opponent from getting 3 in a row of their pieces. The goal is to get 3 in a row to win. The player who succeeds in placing their 3 pieces in a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row wins. If no one wins, play again!



Sink and Float Activity

Materials Needed:

- Large bowl or container
- Water*
- Loose parts

What to do:

- Fill your container with water. (*Supervise any water activity carefully)
- Choose a loose part.
- Have your child predict if the loose part will sink or float. Have your child put the loose part in the water. Did it sink or float?

Continue predicting and experimenting which items will sink or float. At the end, compare how many items floated to how many sank.



Sand Sensory Writing

Materials Needed :

Any kind of tray

Rice, or any of the following can be used: salt, flour, corn flour, or sand.

To make Rainbow rice. Put a few drops of food coloring in each bag. (one color in each bag.) Seal and shake each bag. When it is dry, mix all the rice in one bag.

What to do:

Put your rice, flour, or sand on the tray. Pick a letter to practice writing in the rice. It could be a letter from your child's name or a letter he/she is learning.

What they are learning as they play:

literacy: making marks, understanding that print converts meaning, using some recognizable letters from their own name and beyond, naming and writing letters from the alphabet,

physical: enjoying sensory play, exploring the world through use of the senses, pouring and scooping with a sensory material

creative: using imaginations to play invented games and stories



Repeating Patterns

Repeating Patterns

Materials: objects from home, loose parts, printed pictures

Create various repeating patterns by placing items in a row. Have your child predict what comes next. Have your child create another repeating pattern. Have your child say the pattern verbally.

Repeating patterns is a math skill. Researchers have found that patterns allow us to make educated guesses, assumptions and hypotheses...it helps us develop important skills of critical thinking and logic. Go on a pattern hunt inside or outside. Use shapes, colors, letters and/or numbers to make patterns.



Making Stick Puppets

Materials: paper, markers, crayons, pencils, various craft items, any kind of stick or stick like item (twigs, straws, paper towels holders), tape, glue

Create any kind of shape, face, or drawing on the paper. Glue or tape any kind of item on the paper to add to the creation. Cut out the design and tape the stick on the back.

Use stick puppets to role play, make up stories or put on a puppet show. Have fun!

This activity involves strengthening fine motor skills, decision making, and imaginative play. As stories and scenarios are made up and told verbally, language skills are being enhanced and developed.



Numbers Board Game & Workout

Create a chart with the child's help, brainstorm what physical activities should be assigned to each number on the Die.

For example: One = 1 Hop

Two = 2 jumping jacks

Three = 3 claps

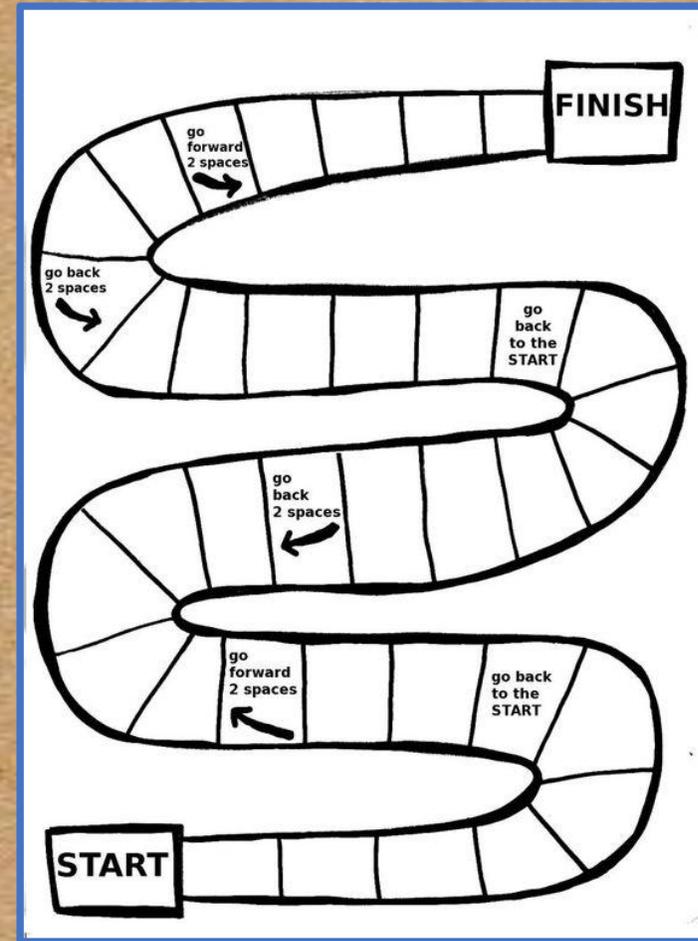
Four = 4 Jump

And so on.

Directions:

The child will throw the die (or two dice can be used) and whatever the number on the dice, the child will have to perform the corresponding physical activity in order to move on the board game.

This activity incorporates physical activity with numbers and most importantly its fun.



Learning Phone Numbers

This is a great way for your child to learn important phone numbers such as 9-1-1 and mom and dad's cell numbers!

The goal of this activity is for your child to practice tapping numbers, like in the order of a phone number. It's actually really fun!

This is a great method for teaching phone numbers because it involves the whole body and adds a sensory experience to help learn a phone number more quickly.

