

# Nursery Level

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

Compiled 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!)

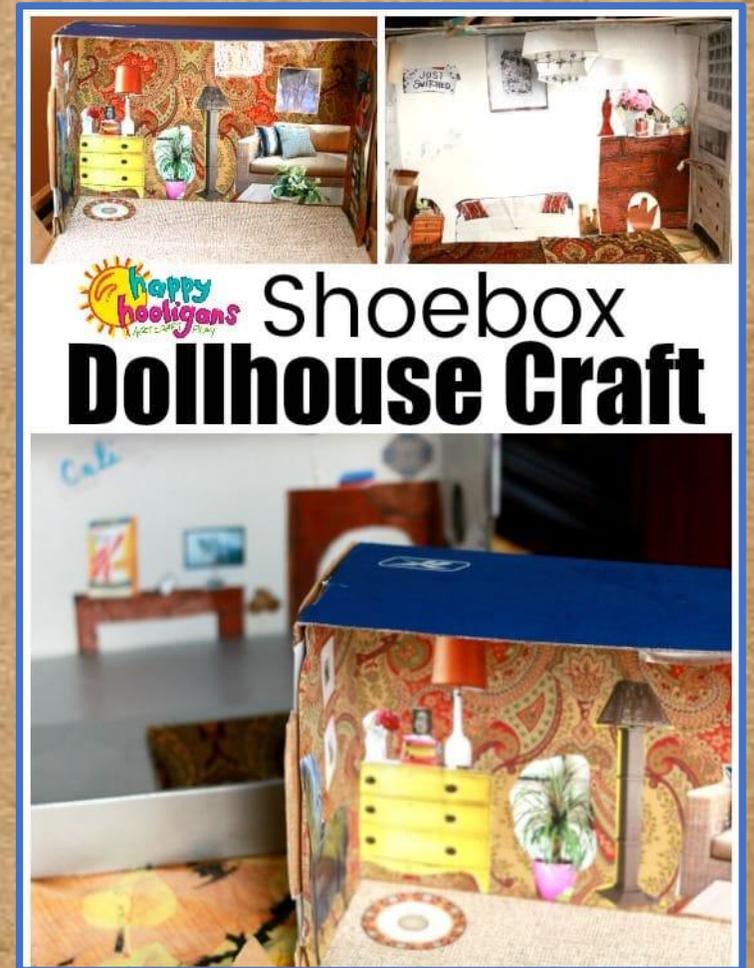
We present activities such as these to Nursery students every day in school...sometimes they do exactly what we ask or expect from the activity, and sometimes they have their own creative thought. We see where this creative thought takes them and we follow their interest. Enjoy these activities...more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

# Decorate your Dream Room!

Supplies: Shoe box, scissors, magazines, and glue

Let your child look through a magazine and cut out the things they would like to have in their room. Then they can design their dream room in the shoe box with the pictures.

If the child is not satisfied with what the magazines have to offer, they can always draw and/ or create their own. For instance make a bench out of the sticks from the backyard, or a bed out of play-dough. When we have imagination on our side, the sky is the limit!



# Beginning, Middle, and End



When kids can identify sequencing, they can better comprehend a story and make sense of what they heard.

Objective: Identify the beginning, middle and end of a story.

Activity: Read a story.

Draw 3 pictures that represent the beginning of the story, the middle of the story and the end of the story. Let the children help with the pictures.

Have the children put the pictures in order of how things happened.

Another option is to make copies of some of the pictures in the story and then have the children put them in order of how they happened.

Check for understanding: Observe your child retelling the story. Are they able to identify the different parts?

# Create a “Bingo” Game

Materials to make the bingo game boards: construction paper or poster board, ruler, markers, printed pictures (optional)

Index cards or pieces of paper for calling/bingo cards.

Game pieces: pennies, raisins, Cheerios, small blocks, or paper cut into small squares.

Make bingo game boards with construction paper or poster board by cutting it the size you want and using a ruler to make a grid. Make as many as you have people playing.  
Hint: For younger children use a larger grid, less spaces to fill.

Fill in the spaces with whatever you choose: letters, numbers, colors, words, print small pictures to cut out and glue in the spaces. Remember to print multiple copies of the pictures.

Make Bingo/calling cards by writing/drawing the choices on the index cards (or gluing the printed pictures)

Create your game rules. Are you filling the whole card, a line across, or a line down? Have fun playing!

This activity involves focus and concentration, eye-hand coordination, visual recognition, and following step by step directions.  
Your child not only can play the game but help create it!



# Dyeing and Stringing Pasta

Materials: pasta with holes (penne, rigatoni), gallon sized ziplock bags, rubbing alcohol, food coloring, paper towels, tray, string or yarn, tape

Place pasta in plastic bag (fill about halfway). Add a couple capfuls of the rubbing alcohol. Add a few squirts of food coloring. Seal the bag. Shake the bag and move the pasta around as you see the color dispersing. Open the bag and spread the pasta out on tray covered with paper towel to dry. Hint: Don't touch the wet pasta as you spread it out to dry. Use the bag or a glove. The pasta dries quickly. Have a few bags and various colors of food coloring available so you can make a few batches of different colors.

Cut string or yarn to the desired length. Put a small piece of tape on one end of the string to make it easier to get the piece of pasta on, and tie a piece of the pasta to the other end so it doesn't slide off. You can create bracelets, necklaces, snakes or whatever your imagination desires. If you have more than one color you can create repeating patterns. Your child might even decide to use the pasta for another purpose or activity. Let them get creative!

This activity involves eye-hand coordination, focus and persistence, planning skills and small muscle strengthening.



# Making Predictions

Lets predict with a twist of fun!

Children are able to make good predictions by using past experiences to decide if something is likely or unlikely.

Activity: Let's dress up

Which clothes would you likely wear in different weather?

Show your kids a picture of some place that is hot like the beach or cold or raining.

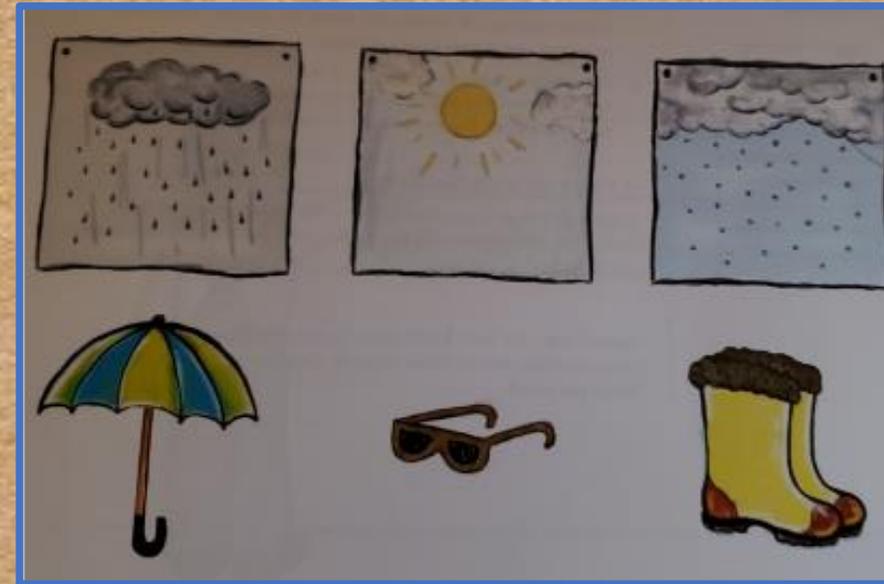
Ask questions:

It is hot. I wonder what you would wear? Let them pick out what they would wear.

It is raining Are you likely or unlikely to wear your sandals/boots/jacket etc.?

Observation:

Observe the choice and have the child explain their choice using likely or unlikely.



# Sensory Activities With Toothpaste

Make your own sand! You'll mix about 1 teaspoon of toothpaste with 2 or 2 and 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt.

Start mixing the ingredients with a spoon and then continue with your hands.

If it's too sticky you can add a pinch of cornstarch. The texture is crumbly.

It's best to let dry for a 1/2 hour.

Have fun playing with your sand! You can scoop it, pour it, mold it...the possibilities are endless!



The next sensory activity is making putty. You will mix about 1 teaspoon of toothpaste with 2 to 3 teaspoons of cornstarch.

Mix the ingredients together with a spoon and then mix the concoction with your hands. The warmth of your hands helps soften the toothpaste and the cornstarch to create the putty. This texture is smooth. This is great for strengthening your fine motor skills!



# Art Collage Activity

Here is a fun activity to do on a rainy day or any other day!

## Materials Needed:

Construction paper - the more colorful the better!

Scissors (Child-safe like Fiskars)

Tape, glue sticks or glue

Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Stickers

## What to do:

Artists draw a sketch of how they want their Collage to look. You can do this first so you can see how your Collage will look. Then you can make any changes before you create.

Once you have all your materials, have your child pick the paper he or she wants to do the collage on.

You can do the next step several ways. Cut the width or length of your colored construction paper into 1 ½ to 2 inch strips. Then you can bend or fold your strips to make bridges, however you would like.

If you don't have colored paper, color any design on it, and cut your designed paper into strips. Bend or fold your paper and glue it on your paper.

You can also draw on the paper, or base where you will add the Collage. Don't forget to sign your name, as you are the artist!



# Number Pong Activity

Here is a fun activity that combines throwing with letters, or in this case numbers.

## Materials Needed:

Plastic cups 12-16 ounces

Ping Pong balls, Cotton balls, or Pom Poms

Black Marker

Loose parts

## What to do:

Mom or Dad number your cups from 1-10 or 10-20

You will need a lot of loose parts. Put 1 loose part in the number 1 cup, 2 loose parts in the number 2 cup, and continue until you get to the number 10 cup. You can skip this step if you need. If you pair the number with the amount, It helps your child connect the amount with the number it represents. Either way, your child will enjoy throwing the ball into the cup!

