

TODDLER

Week

33

Smart Activities



SMART CHOICE. SMARTER CHILD.®

Big Pan, Little Pan

Materials: pots and pans (small and large)

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Say, "See all of these pots and pans." Hold up a pan and fit it inside the other pan.
2. Say, "This pan is big, and this pan is small."
3. Encourage your child to pick up and play with the different size pans.



Cooking with the Cat

by Bonnie Worth

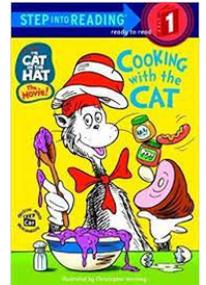
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/ALBt2dhJ6X8>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What was the cat doing in the kitchen?" "What did they make in the kitchen?" "What was your favorite part of the book?"



Fill That Pot

Materials: water, measuring cup, 2 pots

Preparation: Fill one pot with a small amount of water. Find a safe area for running. Place other pot away from the pot of water.

Instructions:

1. Say, "I want you to take the measuring cup, dip it in the water, and then run or walk to the other pot. You will do this until you fill up the empty pot."
2. Cheer your child as he/she fills the pot.



Sign Language "Eat"

Instructions:

1. Say, "Let us learn to say 'eat' using our hands."
2. Demonstrate and then have your child make the sign.
3. Place the flattened "O" hand toward the mouth once for the word "eat." Some regions use the sign for "eat" and "food" interchangeable, while other regions sign "eat" twice for the word "food." While shrugging shoulders, sign "more" or "finished" to ask your child if he/she is finished eating.



Playdough in the Kitchen

Materials: spoon, small bowl, small plate, playdough, small rolling pin

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Show your child the materials and encourage him/her to wrap and mold the playdough to each shape.
2. Talk about each of the items shapes and what they do for us in the kitchen.



The Cat Who Couldn't Cook

by Anita Kelly Gaunt

Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/fTdxON5alfQ>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What happens when you the cat tries to cook in the kitchen?" "Who helped the cat out on finding the problem?" "What was the problem?"



Whip It Up!

Materials: metal bowl, whisk, dish soap, water

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Show your child the bowl, whisk, water, and dish soap.
2. Help him/her pour in the water and then add the dish soap to the bowl.
3. Hold the bowl with your child and encourage him/her to beat the whisk around. Talk about the bubbles that are beginning to form.



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Stacking and Balancing Cans and Boxes

Materials: food items, ex: peas, beans, macaroni & cheese box, etc.

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Show your child the can or boxed items.
2. Stack a few of the cans and/or boxes. Say, "I made a tower of food. Now you try."
3. Allow your child to stack and unstack as he/she experiments with balancing. This is a great science and math lesson.



Monster Chef

by Nick Bland

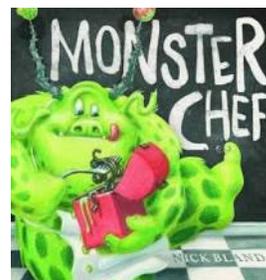
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/JhkSArrLouo>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "Why couldn't the monster frighten children?" "What did he make in the kitchen?" "Would you eat the monster's food?" Sign "eat."



Ring Around the Kitchen

Preparation: Preview the words.

Instructions:

1. Tell your child that he/she is going to play "Ring Around the Kitchen." (sing to the tune "Ring around the Rosie")
2. Have your child hold your hands and as you move around in a circle:

**Ring around the Kitchen,
The pot is full of water,
Boiling, Boiling,**

We all jump down. (fall or jump down)

**Ring around the Kitchen,
The spaghetti is now ready,
Eating, Eating,**

We all eat it up. (make motions of eating)

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Funnel Play

Materials: funnel, bowl, water, large measuring cup, cup

Preparation: Set funnel in the measuring cup.

Instructions:

1. Show your child the materials. Say, "You are going to pour the water from the bowl into the measuring cup using the small cup."
2. Demonstrate how to scoop some water and pour through the funnel.
3. Encourage your child to try. This is a great activity for fine motor skills and learning about transferring water from one place to another.



Bunny Cakes

by Rosemary Wells

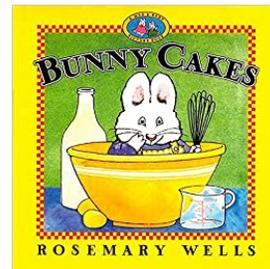
Materials: internet access, website:

https://youtu.be/NjdvS_s0Ty4

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask questions, ex: "What did Max want to make for his grandmother?" "What did Max keep doing in the kitchen?" "What did grandmother think of both the cakes?"



Colander Spaghetti

Materials: colander, pipe cleaners

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Show your child the colander and pipe cleaners.
2. Pick up a pipe cleaner and put it through one of the holes in the colander.
3. Say, "Now you try!"
4. Allow your child to experiment putting them in and out.



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Baking Bread Together

Materials: 1 cup of self-rising flour, 2/3 cup of Greek yogurt, toppings (ex: raisins, banana chips, berries, etc.), cookie sheet, cookie cutters (optional)

Preparation: Gather items and mix.

Instructions:

1. Say, "Let's make a bread snack."
2. Give your child some of the batter and allow him/her time to knead and play with it.
3. Then, have your child make it into a ball and flatten it. (You can use cookie cutters.)
4. Decorate together the flatten bread then pop into a 365° oven until golden brown.



Llama Llama Yum Yum Yum!

by Anna Dewdney

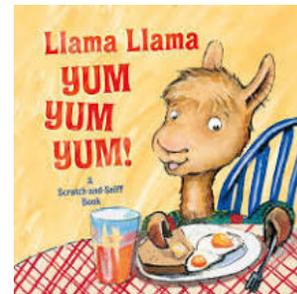
Materials: internet access, website:

<https://youtu.be/XTd6XAJxuto>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to the read aloud story with your child.
2. Ask "What foods did you see in the book?" "What was your favorite food in the grocery store?" "What happens at bedtime?"



Loop the Paper Towel Roll

Materials: cardboard tube, medium size rubber bands (colorful if possible)

Preparation: Gather materials. (If your child is struggling getting the bands on the tube, try using a bottle and let him/her drop them around the neck.)

Instructions:

1. Show your child the rubber bands and cardboard tube. Take a rubber band and stretch it onto the tube.
2. Encourage your child to do the same. Continue until as long as interest remains.

Try using a can after your child masters the roll.



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