

Week 4 SERIES 1000-1050

LEARNING GOALS

- Interacts with a toy or object to understand it
- Use simple art materials
- Observes key community helper
- Observes simple songs or finger plays that involve numbers
- Observes and explores objects using all senses
- Shows interest in a book
- Creates simple art
- Responds to music

DAILY SCHEDULE

Morning Routine
(Brush teeth, get dressed, breakfast, etc.)
Curriculum Activity
Snack
Independent Play
Brain Waves
Lunch
Rest/Nap
Curriculum Activity
Outdoor Play
Evening Routine

MATERIALS NEEDED

- infant mittens or infant socks
- marker
- paper
- crayon or pencil
- infant's own shoes
- soft hat
- stuffed animals (elephant, giraffe, monkey)
- shoeboxes
- stuffed giraffe (or another animal)
- stuffed monkey
- pictures of bananas
- book about zoo animals
- stuffed hippo
- music
- construction paper (gray, white)
- glue
- scissors

CURRICULUM SCHEDULE

MONDAY

- Theme Exploration: *Clapping Monkeys*
- Creative Exploration: *Visit to the Zoo*
- Brain Waves: *Happy Feet, Happy Hands*

TUESDAY

- Dramatic Play: *Keeper at the Zoo*
- Cognitive Exploration (Math): *5 Swinging Monkeys*
- Brain Waves: *Happy Feet, Happy Hands*

WEDNESDAY

- Music/Movement: *Monkey Dance*
- Cognitive Exploration: *Follow the Banana*
- Brain Waves: *Happy Feet, Happy Hands*

THURSDAY

- Language/Literacy: *Laughing Giraffes*
- Theme Exploration: *Clapping Giraffes*
- Brain Waves: *Happy Feet, Happy Hands*

FRIDAY

- Music/Movement: *Dancing Hippo*
- Creative Exploration: *Hippo Teeth*
- Brain Waves: *Happy Feet, Happy Hands*

Theme Exploration

Clapping Monkeys

Learning Goal: Interacts with a toy or object to understand it

Materials: stuffed monkey or another zoo animal

Instructions:

1. Allow your baby to explore animal.
2. Explain that a monkey lives in the zoo with other animals.
3. Show him/her how the monkey loves to clap. Ask your baby, “Can you clap too?”
4. Encourage them to clap. Assist if necessary.
5. Clap and cheer for their efforts!



Creative Exploration

Visit to the Zoo

Learning Goal: Use simple art materials

Materials: paper, crayon or pencil, infant’s own shoes

Preparation: Trace shoe prints onto the paper.

Instructions:

1. Place the paper with traced shoe prints on the floor and bring your baby over.
2. Say to your baby, “We are going to visit the zoo.”
3. While wearing the shoes, help your baby hop on and off the shoe prints as they “visit the zoo”. You will say to your baby “You are in the zoo” and now “You are out of the zoo” as you move their feet on and off the paper.



Dramatic Play

Keeper at the Zoo

Learning Goal: Observes key community helper

Materials: soft hat, stuffed animals (elephant, giraffe, monkey), shoeboxes

Instructions:

1. Place hat on your head and explain that you are the Zookeeper.
2. Assist baby in placing each stuffed animal in a different shoebox as their home in the zoo.
3. Walk around checking on the animals.
4. Next, tell your baby that they are the Zookeeper as you place the hat on their head and to keep the animals safe and fed.
5. Praise your child for their efforts!



Cognitive Exploration (Math)

5 Swinging Monkeys

Learning Goal: Observes simple songs or finger plays that involve numbers

Instructions:

1. Sing “5 Swinging Monkeys” several times to your own tune.
2. As you sing, use your fingers as props and interact with your baby.
 “5 Swinging Monkeys, Swinging from tree to tree.
 Teasing each other ‘you can’t catch me.’
 Then one little monkey jumped out of the tree. “
3. Continue the song in number order.



Music and Movement

Monkey Dance

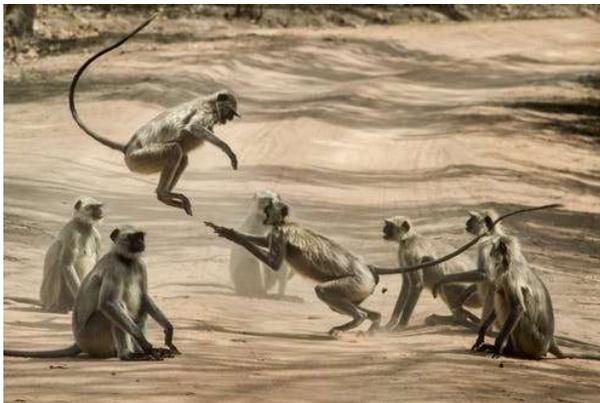
Learning Goal: Responds to music

Materials: stuffed monkey, music

Preparation: Prepare music to play for activity.

Instructions:

1. Bring your infant into an open space.
2. Turn on lively music.
3. Move monkey to the music.
4. Encourage your baby to bounce, wiggle, laugh, or coo to the music.
5. Clap and cheer for their efforts!



Cognitive Exploration

Follow the Banana

Learning Goal: Observes and explores objects using all senses

Materials: stuffed monkey, pictures of bananas

Preparation: Make a trail of banana pictures on the carpet and place a stuffed monkey at the end.

Instructions:

1. Bring your baby to carpet and point to the banana.
2. Say, "Do you see the banana? Let's follow the banana."
3. Get down on the carpet with them and crawl to the next banana.
4. Allow baby the time to explore as you guide them.
5. Clap as they follow the bananas and get excited when they find the monkey.



Language/Literacy

Laughing Giraffes

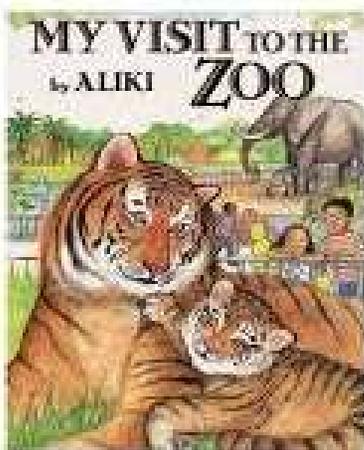
Learning Goal: Shows interest in a book

Materials: book about zoo animals

Preparation: Pre-read book.

Instructions:

1. Hold your baby and read chosen story.
2. Each time a giraffe is spotted say, "I see a giraffe."
3. Laugh and encourage infants to laugh with you.
4. Clap and cheer for their efforts.



Theme Exploration

Clapping Giraffes

Learning Goal: Interacts with a toy or object

Materials: stuffed giraffe

Instructions:

1. Hold your baby and allow them to explore the giraffe.
2. Tell them a giraffe is an animal at the zoo.
3. Clap as you show your baby the giraffe.
4. Ask your baby, "Can you clap too?"
5. Encourage infant to clap. Assist if necessary.
6. Clap and cheer for their efforts.



Music/Movement

Dancing Hippo

Learning Goal: Responds to music

Materials: stuffed hippo, music

Preparation: Prepare music to play for activity.

Instructions:

1. Bring your infant into an open space.
2. Turn on lively music.
3. Move hippo to the music.
4. Encourage your baby to bounce, wiggle, laugh, or coo to the music.
5. Clap and cheer for their efforts!



Creative Exploration

Hippo Teeth

Learning Goal: Creates simple art

Materials: construction paper (gray, white), glue, marker, scissors

Preparation: From gray construction paper, cut out hippo shapes. Draw features on each hippo. Cut small white squares from remaining paper.

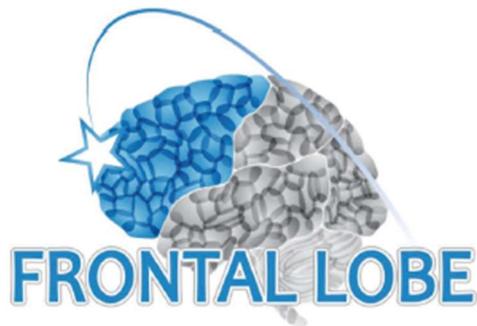
Instructions:

1. Hold your baby and tell them about hippos.
2. Tell them a hippo is an animal at the zoo.
3. Talk about the hippos' features.
4. Assist your baby with adding the hippo's teeth to his mouth.



Supporting the Development of the Frontal Lobe

A main function of the frontal lobe is cognitive thinking, such as reasoning and problem solving. This portion of the brain is also responsible for motor development, language development, social-emotional behavior, and impulse control. Research shows that lack of development in the frontal lobe can lead to deficits in concentration and decreased problem solving and creativity skills. To support the development of the frontal lobe, you can conduct the following activity with your child.



Emotional Stimulation

Happy Feet, Happy Hands

Materials: infant mittens or infant socks, marker

Preparation: Draw happy or silly faces on mitten or sock. (You can use an adult sock on your hand if you do not have a spare infant sock or mitten.)

Instructions:

1. Place infant in a bouncer or do this during tummy time.
2. Talk to your baby about things that make you happy and make a happy face as you talk to them, such as family.
3. Put mitten on your baby's hand and point out the happy face or put sock on your baby's foot. Point out the happy face.
4. As they wave their hand or kick their feet, clap and say, "Look at your happy (hand or feet)."

