

MAY BEGINNERS

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

This month, your child will practice using spatial vocabulary, matching items by color and size, and sharing details about recent family events.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child:

- Take one of your child's toys and place it near a piece of furniture. Ask your child questions that prompt him to use spatial vocabulary, for example, "Where is your teddy bear hiding?" Listen to words such as under, next to, on top of and near.
- Prompt your child to share details about recent events with you. Ask
 questions such as, "Do you remember when we went to Grandma's house?
 What did we do there?"
- As you fold laundry, ask your child to sort clothing items by color and size.



Here's what your child experienced this month.

Each month's Links to Learning activities build on the month before, connecting previously learned skills with new learning. These activities include the essentials of language and math, along with a variety of other skills.



Language and Literacy	Science and Social Studies
COMMUNICATION	SCIENCE
 Speaks using a variety of vocabulary Understands and uses plurals Begins to add "ed" to create past tense words Understands and uses spatial vocabulary Speaks in a clear, audible voice 	Sorts animals into animal familiesCompares hand and foot size to peers and adults
	SOCIAL STUDIES
	 Explores roles of family members (mother, father)
LITERACY	DIVERSITY
 Recognizes first name in print Recognizes some letter names Acquires new vocabulary through shared reading experiences Connects events in story to own life Pretends to read a book, holding the book right side up Identifies the beginning and end of a story 	Identifies members of immediate familyShares a family experience/ memory
	(ii) Creative Expression
	MUSIC AND MUSICIANS
	Claps in rhythm with music Explores a variety of musical instruments Cinese formillar and a second se
WRITING	
Holds a crayon or other writing utensil correctly	Sings familiar songs
 Makes scribble marks that resemble some letter forms 	ART AND ARTISTS
on paper • "Reads" own writing aloud	 Creates a painting using two or more primary colors Explores and creates multi-sensory art (scent, texture)
	Begins to use a glue bottle Draws some shapes Paints with a paintbrush with some control
Mathematics	
NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE	·
• Counts from 1–20	DRAMATIC PLAY
Understands the number concepts of one to five Counts items in groups of 1. 5.	Engages in pretend play connected to the weekly story Engages in pretend play dramatizing family roles
 Counts items in groups of 1–5 Uses fingers to represent numbers 1–5 	
GEOMETRY AND RELATIONSHIPS	
Names shapes and colors (primary and most secondary)	
Sorts objects by color, shape, and/or size	
 Matches shapes regardless of orientation (e.g. triangle and 	
upside-down triangle) • Matches simple 3D shapes to simple 2D shapes	
PROBLEM SOLVING AND REASONING	
• Completes 3- to 10-piece puzzles	
Repeats simple ABAB patterns	
• Identifies what comes next in simple, familiar tasks	

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MAY - BEGINNER (continued from front)	
⊗ Wellness	— Social-Emotional
FINE MOTOR SKILLS	SELF-HELP SKILLS
 Strings large beads Laces lacing cards with support Squeezes and manipulates Play-Doh Uses safety scissors Puts small objects in openings 	Begins to follow bathrooming procedures Expresses needs and wants Dresses self with minimal assistance Feeds self with eating utensils
GROSS MOTOR AND BALANCE	SOCIAL INTERACTION
Tries to balance on one foot Kicks a ball without falling Throws a ball at a target Tries to catch a ball Attempts pedaling on tricycles	 Takes turns speaking in conversation Plays cooperatively with peers Recognizes and labels some emotions in self and others Maintains attention to an activity for 5-8 minutes
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HEALTH, SAFETY, AND NUTRITION	 Introduced to new Spanish vocabulary Reviews previously acquired Spanish vocabulary Explores different musical instruments from other cultures
Follows simple hand-washing procedures Identifies common foods and drinks	