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Learning at Home

Your home is your children's first learning environment. Develop their skills by using play, everyday items, and daily household tasks.

- **In the kitchen:** Children who help prepare dinner learn science skills, like how to combine foods to make a final product.
- **In the bedroom:** Children who talk about their day before going to sleep build memory skills. Reading a book with your child is a wonderful addition to the bedtime routine.
- **In the living room:** Children who talk with adults are learning vocabulary and other language skills.
- **In the bathroom:** Children who practice pouring in the bathtub develop small muscles that will be used for skills like writing.
- **When doing laundry:** Children who count buttons or sort clothes by size, color or type are learning important math skills.
- **In the hallway:** Children who count the steps as they walk upstairs are developing important math skills.
- **Outside:** Children who run, jump, and climb are building large muscles for coordination.



My Book

Have your child draw a picture of them self.

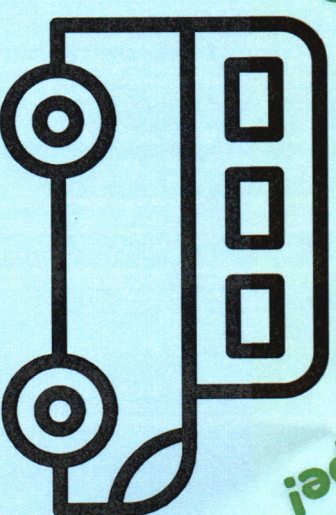
Label the parts of the drawing as your child describes them, such as head or legs.

Put the date at the top.

Put the drawing in a safe place.



Color or Trace the Shapes!



A Week of Activities

Check Out These Books!

Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse

by Lindsay Barrett George

Ten Minutes Till Bedtime by Peggy Rathman

Actual Size by Steve Jenkins

A Week of Activities

Play shape and color hunt with your child. Ask your child to find something in the house that is shaped like a circle. Or to find something that is blue. Do the same thing with other shapes and colors.

Use stuffed animals or dolls to act out activities your family likes to do together.

Look through magazines or catalogs with your child for pictures of children doing different things. Talk about each picture and what the child is doing in this picture.

Take your child to the grocery store. Look at grocery items and talk about the different colors, shapes, and sizes. Use words like *same* and *different*.

Read a story to your child. Ask questions about the people or animals, where the story takes place, or other details from the story.

Fill a zip-top bag with five tablespoons cornstarch, 1/2 cup vegetable oil, 1/2 cup water, and two drops each of green and blue food coloring. Seal the bag. Show your child how to touch and knead the bag to make the liquid move. Talk about how it feels and the colors inside.

Give your child child-friendly scissors and help them snip small pieces of paper.

Encourage your child to draw a picture of their family.

A Week of Activities

A Week of Activities

Approaches to Learning Through Play
Creative Thinking and Expression
Language and Literacy Development
Mathematical Thinking and Expression
Social and Emotional Development
Health, Wellness and Physical Development
Scientific Thinking and Technology
Social Studies Thinking

Help your child make a leaf rubbing. Place a leaf upside down under a piece of paper and rub different colored crayons over the top of the paper.

Take your child to the library to get a library card to get their own library card. Visit often!

Make a height chart with paper. Place paper against the wall or door and ask your child to stand with their back against the chart. Mark your child's height and date it. Try this again in three months and talk about the change.

Give your child old envelopes from the mail. Help your child to write and mail letters by placing them in a special place.

Sing simple counting songs and rhymes with your child. Fingers and toes make good counting tools!

Encourage your child to read a book to you by using the pictures to tell the story.

Give your child a mirror and ask them to describe their face. Talk about what color are their eyes and hair, and what shape is their nose or cheeks.

Ask your child to point to body parts like shoulder, knees, ankle, and elbow. Next, ask them to try touch their ear to their knee, or put their head on their hands, etc.