

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Scavenger Hunt

Number or Letter or Color or Shape scavenger hunt. Make 2 copies of each letter/number/color or shape. Hide one of the pairs and then show the children the match and ask them to find the pair in the area where you have hidden it. Make sure the difficulty matches the development of the children. If they are very young make the item more obvious to find. If you have older children you can make the pair more difficult to find. **Target: taking turns**

Primary Color Squishy Bag experiment

This is a great hands on activity to introduce the children to the primary colors and what happens when you mix certain colors. **Target: peer interaction**

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2015/08/25/primary-colours-squishy-bag-experiment/>

Read a book about colors, numbers, letters or shapes

Target: cooperation

Color Mixing

<https://theimaginationtree.com/colour-concoctions-with-coloured-water/>

This is a great outside activity

Target: Taking Turns

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Fine Motor

Ten Fingers

I have ten fingers (*hold up both hands, fingers spread*)

And they all belong to me, (*point to self*)

I can make them do things-

Would you like to see?

I can shut them up tight (*make fists*)

I can open them wide (*open hands*)

I can put them together (*place palms together*)

I can make them all hide (*put hands behind back*)

I can make them jump high (*hands over head*)

I can make them jump low (*touch floor*)

I can fold them quietly (*fold hands in lap*)

And hold them just so. **Target: finger manipulation**

Sponge color match- Target: grasping

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2014/12/12/fine-motor-busy-bag-activity/>

This activity would also be fun if you had the sponges floating in a tub of water.

Color match car painting- Target-eye hand coordination

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2015/09/27/colour-match-cars-painting/>

This would be a good outside activity

Letter, Number, Shape Erase

This activity is best done using a white board. Use a white board and markers to write several letters of the alphabet on a small white board and then I propped the board up where the children can reach it. **Target: eye hand coordination**

<http://www.giftofcuriosity.com/erasing-letters-with-a-q-tip-101-ways-to-teach-the-alphabet/>

Variation: you could put the letters/numbers/shapes using chalk on the sidewalk or fence and have the children erase them with water and a paintbrush.

Target: grasping

Magazine Letters/numbers/colors/shapes

If you are doing this with a younger child or one who is not very familiar with the letters yet, I suggest recommend having them search for just one or two letters at a time. Here are a few ideas for adapting this activity:

- Have your child search just for uppercase versions of 1 or 2 letters
- Have your child search just for lowercase versions of 1 or 2 letters
- Have your child search for both uppercase and lowercase versions of 1 letter
- Have your child search for the letters in his or her name
- Have children search for items of a certain color
- Have the children cut out certain shapes

As you can see, this activity can be easily adapted to meet your child's developmental abilities.

<http://www.giftofcuriosity.com/cutting-pasting-letters-from-magazines-101-ways-to-teach-the-alphabet/>

Target: scissor or ripping skills

Color Cookies

http://www.education.com/activity/article/colorbaking_preschool/

Target: eye hand coordination

Gross Motor

Shape Hopscotch Game:

- Cut 6 different easily recognizable paper shapes ~ Orange stars, yellow circles, red squares, green ovals, purple squares, and blue triangles.
- Tape the colored shapes to the floor with painters tape.
- The object of the simple game was to move and learn while having lots of fun. Again this can be adapted to use letters, colors or numbers as well

<http://www.housingaforest.com/shape-hopscotch/>

Target: balance

The Color I See

Red, red is the color I see. If you are wearing red then show it to me. Stand up, turn around. Show me your red then sit back down.

Yellow, Yellow is the color I see. If you are wearing Yellow then show it to me. Stand up, turn around. Show me your yellow then sit back down.

Go through as many colors as you want

Target: balance

Running Game

Set out pieces of paper of different color in your outdoor space (On the ground, on the fence, on a tree etc.) Call out a color and tell the children to run to the piece of paper of that color. Create variations in movement by asking the children to hop on 2 feet, hop like a kangaroo, walk backward etc. each time you ask them to find a colored piece of paper.

Target: large muscle movement

INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

Cognitive

Crocodile Counting

<http://www.readingconfetti.com/2012/01/crocodile-counting.html>

Target: number recognition

Free File Folder Games

- Counting Match game
- Color Match game
- Shape Matching game

<http://www.itsybityfun.com/summer-file-folder-games.html>

Target: matching

Paint chip color match

<http://sewfantastic.blogspot.ca/2012/05/paint-chip-matching-game.html>

Color changing milk experiment

<http://www.readingconfetti.com/2013/08/paint-chip-number-recognition-virtual.html>

Target: Cause and effect

Pompom sort

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2013/11/27/learning-trays-sorting-coloured-pompoms/>

Target: color recognition

Number match game

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2015/11/08/free-printable-number-match-counting-wheel/>

Target: number recognition

Language

Colors

(Sung to: Head, Shoulder, Knees, and Toes)

Red, yellow, green and blue green and blue

Red, yellow, green and blue green and blue

Purple, orange, brown and black

Red, yellow, green and blue green and blue

Target: repetition

I Can Sing a Rainbow

Red and yellow and pink and green;

Purple and orange and blue.

I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too.

Listen with your eyes, listen with your eyes, and sing everything you see.

You can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing along with me.

Red and yellow and pink and green; purple and orange and blue.

Now, we can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too.

Target: rhyming

Colors up in the Rainbow

Red and orange, green and blue, shiny yellow, purple too.

All the colors that we know, live up in the rainbow.

Red and orange, green and blue, shiny yellow, purple too.

Target: vocabulary

Orange as a carrot

ORANGE as a carrot,

YELLOW as a pear,

PURPLE as a plum,

BROWN as a bear,
GREEN as the grass,
BLUE as the sky,
BLACK as a cat
RED as cherry pie

Target: vocabulary

Numbers

Number 1 is big and tall, stand him up so he won't fall.
Number 2 goes backwards and along, please make sure you don't go wrong.
Two little curls for number 3, one for you and one for me.
Number 4 goes down and across, give him a stick so he's the boss.
Number 5 is a funny chap, down fat tummy and give him a hat.
Number 6 looks like a curl in your hair, twiddle it around to show that it's there,
Number 7 starts with a hat, then goes down just like that,
Number eight makes an 'S' then go back to join it up.
Number 9 is like a ball on a stick, start with a 'C' then go up and down quick.
Number 10, that's a lot of fun, write 1 and a nought and now it's all done!

Target: vocabulary

I Can Count

I can count, want to see?
Here's my fingers- one, two, three (*Hold up fingers as you count*)
Four and five, this hand is done.
Now I'll count the other one.
Six, seven, eight and nine (*Hold up fingers on other hand*)
Just one more, I'm doing fine.
The last little finger is number ten.
Now I'll count them all again.
One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten!

Target: Rhyming

Circle Song

(to the tune of: "If You're Happy and You Know It")

A circle is a shape that goes round.
A circle is a shape that goes round.
A circle is a shape that goes round,
And round and round.
A circle is a shape that goes round.

Tiptoe slowly on the circle and go round.
Tiptoe slowly on the circle and go round.
Tiptoe slowly on the circle,

And go round and round and round.
Tiptoe slowly on the circle and go round.

Target: repetition

Make A Square

(to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

From the bottom to the top,
Straight across and then you stop,
Straight down to the bottom again,
Across and stop where you began,
If the lines are the same size,
Then a square is your surprise.

Target: rhyming

This Is a Triangle

(to the tune of: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

This is a triangle,
Look and you will see.
It has three corners and three sides.
Count them one, two, three!

Target: rhyming

CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Shape painting

Gather your materials. For this art activity you will need a regular kitchen sponge, some paint, a paper plate or the like to put your paint on, paper and scissors.

Cut the sponge into some good hand size shapes for your child. We've been learning about shapes so I made some , but you can cut out fish shapes, letters..the sky and your cutting ability is the limit! Spread some paint on a plate or tray and dip your sponge in.

Target: creativity

<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2008/04/sponges-arent-just-for-cleaning.html>

Rice and Ice Sensory Activity

If you prefer not to use food in the activity then just use the colored ice

<http://www.learning4kids.net/2015/07/19/rice-and-ice-sensory-activity/>

Target: texture

Water Tracing

Trace shapes, letters or numbers on a chalkboard or sidewalk, driveway etc. You draw either different shapes, numbers or letters using chalk. Then give the children a paint brush and water to trace the shape, letter or number as they paint over it and erase it.

Target: decision making

Disappearing Letters

This can be done with all ages. The kids might enjoy doing this activity with the letters of their name.

<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2012/11/disappearing-letters-alphabet-for-starters-activity.html>

Target: decision making

EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Puffy Letters

To make the puffy letters I whipped up a batch of super simple puffy paint by mixing together approximately equal parts white glue and shaving cream. I then dropped dollops of the mixture onto a tray and let it dry over night. Then voila! I had puffy balls on a tray!

I took a marker and wrote one letter on each of the puffy balls to create puffy letters. (I had two leftover puffy balls, so I wrote numbers on those.) Then the activity was ready.

<http://www.giftofcuriosity.com/smash-the-puffy-letters-101-ways-to-teach-the-alphabet/>

Target: independence

Color Wheel Hunt

<http://www.toddlerapproved.com/2012/03/color-wheel-hunt.html>

Target: independence

Outdoor Color Hunt

<https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2015/07/nature-collage-and-color-hunt.html>

Target: self-expression