

JUNE ACTIVITY CALENDAR: AGES 3-5



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

WEEK 1

Cloud talk! Go outside and talk about clouds using descriptive words such as; dark/gloomy, light/fluffy, thin/thick, low/high.

Ice it! Using a small container or bag you can fill with water, drop in a Lego or another plastic toy. Place in freezer. Once frozen, take out the ice and predict how long it will take to melt.

Rain collector! On a rainy day put a container outside to collect rain. Predict how many inches you think it will rain. Can you measure it when the rain stops?

Green thumb! Do you have indoor plants or can you plant something outside? Talk to your child about what plants need such as sunlight, water, etc.

Clean penny! Collect old pennies and soak them in a small bowl of vinegar with a teaspoon of salt. Within a minute, the pennies will be instantly “shined.”

WEEK 2

Question everything! When reading or playing, ask your child questions such as “What else do you see?” “Tell me about that!” “What if?” and “I wonder how?”

Letter practice! Use whatever you have lots of, such as salt, flour, rice, shaving cream, etc. Pour into a shallow container. Can you take turns writing letters with your finger?

Name puzzle. Write your child’s name on a piece of paper with some space between each letter. Cut the letters apart and use as a puzzle. Try other words!

I wonder? Before you read something new, ask your child what they think it will be about. Ask them why they think that. Let them imagine!

Draw the end. Read a story but do not read the last page. Ask your child to draw what they think will happen.

WEEK 3

Helping hands. When cleaning, can you give your child a job? Can they pick up toys or sweep/vacuum? Can they wipe a table with a cloth and water?

Which way? When walking with your child, give them options on which way they would like to go. Should you walk fast or slow? Can you hop or skip?

How do I feel? Model feelings for your child. Talk about being frustrated when something is not going your way. Model how to work through frustration.

Laundry pretend! Give your child a container of water and soap outside. Using old clothes or doll clothes, pretend to wash and dry the clothes.

Hide it. Hide a few of your child’s favorite toys around the house, turn off all the lights, and send them off to find items with the flashlight!

WEEK 4

Feel good! One of the best ways to support your child is to help them feel positive about themselves. Be specific. “Wow! You are so... creative, strong, fast, curious, etc.”

Clean up fun! To keep positive when getting chores done, time your child to see how fast they can clean up. Can they clean up before you count to 20?

Got problems? When your child has a problem with a sibling or another child, help them think through how to solve the problem. Can they say what they want?

Remember when? Asking questions help children relate the pictures or words in the book they are reading to experiences outside the book.

Play ideas! Support your child to include others’ ideas during play. If this is hard, help them think of ways they can play together using everyone’s ideas.

RESOURCES FROM SAVE THE CHILDREN

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Your child's brain is growing so quickly! Our friends at Vroom share more activities and the science behind them.

WEEK 1

SCAVENGER HUNT: Before you go out, make a list with your child of natural things to collect as you go, like leaves or stones. When you get back, see if they can count how many of each item they found. Talk together about what you notice. What's the same and what's different about them?

Brainy Background: Making a list is a great way to expose your child to the everyday importance of reading and writing. When you talk back-and-forth about what you see, you're building their communication skills and vocabulary. When they explore the world around them, they're learning about science firsthand.

WEEK 2

ONE LETTER AT A TIME: Is your child curious about spelling? Take turns going back and forth spelling a simple word like "cat." You say "C," they say "A," and you say "T." Add a twist and help them spell the word backward with you!

Brainy Background: Playing games like this helps your child connect letters and sounds. Spelling backward helps them to think flexibly and not just go on autopilot. Spelling games like this one also help prepare them for later reading and writing.

WEEK 3

PLAYFUL DINNER PREP: Try to prepare dinner in a new way. Ask your child, "What if we only used one arm to make dinner tonight?" See what you can do easily and what's really hard. Share ideas back and forth about how you manage with only one arm. Then try, "What if you use your right arm and I use my left arm?" What is easier together?

Brainy Background: When you try to do things differently, you can't go on autopilot. The process of setting challenging goals and finding ways to achieve them promotes skills that are very important to learning.

WEEK 4

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: Do you and your child have a daily challenge, like getting ready for school? Have them practice that challenge during playtime. You can say, "Let's pretend we're getting ready to go to school. What should we do first?" Talk about the steps if they need help remembering. "We eat our breakfast, pack our lunch, brush our teeth, and then get on the bus."

Brainy Background: When children have the chance to practice something, they begin to feel a sense of control in challenging situations. They're practicing critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they break the task down into steps and apply what they already know to solve it.



PARENT AND CAREGIVER CORNER

Here are some strategies you can use to extend your child's learning:

1. Help children see themselves as thinkers. Wonder aloud, ask questions, and pose challenges. **2. Respond to curiosity.** Curiosity motivates children to explore and learn. Supporting their curiosity will raise yours. Asking questions ignites curiosity and pushes new ways of thinking. **3. Use mirror talk.** Providing feedback to your child makes them feel noticed and their work is valued. It also helps them become aware of their actions and thinking. **4. Solve problems together.** Collaborating with your child can help them think through the steps of solving a problem. Use multiple strategies, and develop a positive attitude toward problem solving. **5. Link new to familiar.** Linking new concepts with things they already know and are interested in makes it more likely they will remember and use what they learn. **Remember, we're all in this together!**