

Early Learning Matters

Funshop for Age 12 – 18 months

Theme: Toddlers, Books, Words, and Fun



Essential Questions:

- How can parents help their children learn about words and books?
- How can parents help their children learn nursery rhymes?

Objectives:

- Parents will become actively engaged in their children's learning.
- Parents will understand the importance of reading to their children.
- Parents will understand the importance of interacting with their children.

Outcomes:

- Parents will use an inset puzzle with their child and explore ways to extend the child's language use with the puzzle pieces.
- Parents and children will practice pre-writing.
- Parents will hear about the importance of reading and interacting with their child.

Materials Needed:

Section 1 – Time with parents

Section 2 – Guided Practice with Parents and Children

Activity 1 – Fingerplay

- Fingerplays poems booklet

Activity 2 – Zoo puzzle and poem

- Inset Zoo Puzzle (ex: Melissa and Doug Safari puzzle with knobs)
- Zoo Poem & extensions sheet

Activity 3 – Scribbling

- Recycled cardboard from cereal boxes, etc
- Paper
- Crayons

Section 3 – Review with Parents, Evaluation with Parents, Closing

- Feedback Form

Take Home: (ex: book, products from activities, activity sheets)

- Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes book
- Inset puzzle with handles
- Scribbling pages

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**Funshops Steps & Procedure:**

**Section 1 – Time with parents (children are in child care room)**

- Talk about the importance of reading to / with children (talked about at each funshop)
- Talk to parents about different strategies for reading to young children:
  - ✦ Read text
  - ✦ Read only some of the text
  - ✦ Talk about pictures
  - ✦ Talk about story
- Talk to parents about the importance of using a varied vocabulary with their children.
- Activity introduction
  - ✦ Discussion
  - ✦ Model the three activities (see Section 2 for details)
  - ✦ Check to see if parents have any questions before the children return.

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**Section 2 – Guided Practice with Parents and Children**

***Activity 1 – Fingerplays***

***MT Guidelines***

- Guideline: Sensory Learning - 1 Infants and toddlers use their senses to explore their environment through sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch.
  - Seek out and explore new textures, shapes, and materials within the environment
- Guideline: Small Muscle (Fine Motor)-4 Infants and toddlers demonstrate small muscle strength, coordination, intricate exploration and interaction with objects in the environment.
  - Dump and fill containers with objects
  - Use grasp with thumb and forefinger to pick up foods or small objects

- Guideline: Social Communication - 1 Infants and Toddlers interact and communicate with others in appropriate ways for themselves, their families , and the communities.
  - Follow simple verbal and non-verbal directions.
  
- Guideline: Listening and Understanding – 2 Infants and Toddlers use listening and observation skills to make sense and respond to language and other forms of communication.
  - Look at or point to familiar objects when named or asked where they are
  - Follow one-step or two-step directions
  - Respond to action words by performing the action
  - Attempt to find objects that are being talked about by another.

### ***Milestones***

- Physical Development Sensory: Explores new textures, shapes and materials within the environment
- Physical Development: Small muscle: Eye/hand coordination

### ***Procedure***

**With child in lap, parents will use the *Fingerplays* booklet and help their child make the motions that are described in the booklet. Talk to parents about the importance of introducing new words into a child’s vocabulary. Finger plays are a fun way to interact and learn new words.**

### ***Activity 2 – Zoo puzzle and poem***

#### ***MT Guidelines***

- Guideline: Sensory Learning - 1 Infants and toddlers use their senses to explore their environment through sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch.
  - Seek out and explore new textures, shapes, and materials within the environment
  
- Guideline: Small Muscle (Fine Motor)-4 Infants and toddlers demonstrate small muscle strength, coordination, intricate exploration and interaction with objects in the environment.
  - Transfer toys from hand to hand and hold an object in each hand
  - Use grasp with thumb and forefinger to pick up foods or small objects
  
- Guideline: Social Communication - 1 Infants and Toddlers interact and communicate with others in appropriate ways for themselves, their families , and the communities.
  - Follow simple verbal and non-verbal directions.

- Asks for something wanted or needed using words or gestures.
- Guideline: Listening and Understanding – 2 Infants and Toddlers use listening and observation skills to make sense and respond to language and other forms of communication.
  - Look at or point to familiar objects when named or asked where they are
  - Follow one-step or two-step directions
  - Respond to action words by performing the action
  - Attempt to find objects being talked about by another.
- Guideline: Early Literacy and Emerging Reading – 4 Infants and Toddlers demonstrate the beginning understanding of the symbols, the sounds and rhythms of language.
  - Point at or name objects, animals, or people in photos, pictures, and drawings.
- Guideline: Approach to Learning – 1 Infants and toddlers demonstrate curiosity and develop an understanding of basic concepts and relationships through playful, purposeful exploration and discovery.
  - Classify colors, shapes, and other properties when sorting toys and other objects

### ***Milestones***

- Physical Development Sensory: Explores new textures, shapes and materials within the environment
- Physical Development: Small muscle: Eye/hand coordination
- Communication & Language, Listening & Understanding: Explores books and pictures independently
- Physical Development, Health and Physical Well-Being: Develops self-help skills

### ***Procedure***

**Help child explore the puzzle pieces and place them in the puzzle board. Use language to extend the activity. Talk about top, bottom, parts of the body, colors and sizes. Count the pieces with your child. Use Zoo poem with the puzzle.**

***Literacy Connection: Books and poems about animals***

### ***Activity 3 – – Scribbling Activity***

#### ***MT Guidelines***

- Guideline: Sensory Learning - 1 Infants and toddlers use their senses to explore their environment through sight, smell, sound, taste, and touch.

- Seek out and explore new textures, shapes, and materials within the environment
- Guideline: Small Muscle (Fine Motor)-4 Infants and toddlers demonstrate small muscle strength, coordination, intricate exploration and interaction with objects in the environment.
  - Transfer toys from hand to hand and hold an object in each hand
  - Use grasp with thumb and forefinger to pick up foods or small objects
- Guideline: Social Communication - 1 Infants and Toddlers interact and communicate with others in appropriate ways for themselves, their families , and the communities.
  - Follow simple verbal and non-verbal directions.
  - Asks for something wanted or needed using words or gestures.
- Guideline: Listening and Understanding – 2 Infants and Toddlers use listening and observation skills to make sense and respond to language and other forms of communication.
  - Look at or point to familiar objects when named or asked where they are
  - Follow one-step or two-step directions
  - Respond to action words by performing the action
  - Attempt to find objects being talked about by another.
- Guideline: Early Literacy and Emerging Writing – 5 Infants and Toddlers demonstrate interest in symbols as a form of meaningful communication.
  - Use a variety of writing tools, i.e. crayons, markers, or paint brushes, to scribble and make marks on paper
  - Experiment with holding objects with different types of grips, i.e. holding a pencil with his or her palm and all fingers
- Guideline: Approach to Learning – 1 Infants and toddlers demonstrate curiosity and develop an understanding of basic concepts and relationships through playful, purposeful exploration and discovery.
  - Classify colors, shapes, and other properties when sorting toys and other objects

### ***Milestones***

- Physical Development Sensory: Explores new textures, shapes and materials within the environment
- Physical Development: Small muscle: Eye/hand coordination
- Communication & Language, Early Literacy: Scribbles
- Communication & Language, Listening & Understanding: Explores books and pictures independently
- Physical Development: Small muscle: Scribbles

**Procedure**

Children and parents will have time to color together using crayons and paper or recycled cardboard from cereal boxes, cracker boxes, etc.. Parents will be encouraged to talk about colors and objects that are the specific colors such as: yellow, like a lemon, the moon, the sun, or his or her child's favorite shirt, doll, or stuffed animal. Parents will be told that scribbling is a necessary step in learning to write.

*Literacy Connection: Books and poems about colors and shapes*

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**Section 3 – Review with Parents, Evaluation with Parents, Closing**

*Follow up group discussion*

- *What did your child enjoy*
- *What didn't your child enjoy*
- *What else could you do at home to help ....(address essential question)*
  - *Write down all ideas that parents share*
  - *If possible print the ideas and copy for each parent to take home when they leave*
- *Time for parents to fill out the Parent Questionnaire about the funshop*
  
- *Make sure parents take home items*
  
- *Let parents know date of next funshop*