

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
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|  <p><b>Month of the<br/>Young Child 2022</b></p>  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| <p><b>3 WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD</b><br/>Celebrate and enjoy the children in your life! Play copycat with your child. Watch and imitate their actions, and then switch roles and encourage your child to copy your actions.</p>             | <p><b>4 MUSIC MONDAY</b><br/>Fingerplays are a great way to practice counting skills. Try "5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed" or "One, Two, Buckle My Shoe" as a start. Ask your librarian for more suggestions.</p> | <p><b>5 TASTY TUESDAY</b><br/>Make a fruit salad with your child. Let your child use a plastic utensil to slice a banana or apple and peel an orange. Talk about the colors as you toss your fruit in a bowl and enjoy your healthy snack!</p>               | <p><b>6 WORK TOGETHER WEDNESDAY</b><br/>Sort the laundry with your child. Sort by items (i.e., socks, shirts, pants) or by family members. Ask your child to identify which pile has more or less; ask your child to match the socks</p>         | <p><b>7 ARTSY THURSDAY</b><br/>Cut a circle, square, triangle, and rectangle from paper. Give your child a shape and walk around your home. Can you find something of that shape? Repeat with each shape as you explore shapes.</p>                          | <p><b>8 FAMILY FRIDAY</b><br/>Go for a family walk. Show your child the numerals on the houses or other buildings. Read the numerals on five buildings in your neighborhood. Can your child find their age?</p>   | <p><b>9 CELEBRATION SATURDAY</b><br/>Celebrate the end of the Week of the Young Child with a dance party! Dancing moves many parts of your body and can be fun, too. Compare loud and soft, and fast and slow music.</p>                                     |
| <p><b>10 BALLOON BOP</b><br/>Hit a balloon into the air, and don't let it touch the ground. How many times can your child hit it before it drops? See how high your child can go! Can your child keep more than 1 balloon in the air?</p>  | <p><b>11 BEAR HUNT</b><br/>Go on a "bear hunt." Use words like over, around, and under as you go on an adventure together (e.g., "The bear is UNDER the table; Let's go AROUND the bed).</p>                           | <p><b>12 TAG - YOU'RE IT!</b><br/>Play "tag" with your child. Tag can teach your child how to play with others and to win/lose. You can play freeze tag in which the children "freeze" in place until they are "set free" by the touch of another child.</p> | <p><b>13 TAPE JUMPING</b><br/>Place several strips of tape a foot apart on the ground. How far your child can jump? Keep track of how far your child can jump. As your child masters jumping all the strips of tape, add more for difficulty</p> | <p><b>14 TISSUE DANCE</b><br/>Start by placing a tissue on your head and the head of your child. When the music starts playing, everyone starts dancing. Be careful not to let the tissue fall off your head! If the tissue hits the ground, you're out.</p> | <p><b>15 CRAB WALK</b><br/>Teach your child how to do the crab walk. See how fast your child can go. Have races across the room. Make it more difficult by asking your child to balance a stuffed animal on their stomach as they move. If it falls, start again!</p> | <p><b>16 ALLIGATOR ALLEY</b><br/>Make some "islands" across the floor using pillows, stuffed animals, books, etc. Have your child jump from one "island" to the next without falling into the "water" where the "hungry alligators" hide.</p>                |
| <p><b>17 I SPY SOME LETTERS!</b><br/>Play "I Spy" with your child while on a walk in your neighborhood. Look for letters on buildings, signs, and cars. Point to a letter and ask your child to find a letter like yours</p>               | <p><b>18 RHYMING TOSS</b><br/>Play a rhyming game while tossing a ball back and forth (e.g., cat, hat, bat). How many rhyming words can you and your child think of in a row as you toss the ball?</p>                 | <p><b>19 OVER AND UNDER</b><br/>Create a safe obstacle course for your child using boxes, blankets, or furniture. Encourage your child to climb over, under, around, through, between. Demonstrate the words that your child may not understand.</p>         | <p><b>20 MORE/LESS</b><br/>Build several block towers with your child. Compare the towers. Which one is taller or shorter? Is the tower bigger or smaller than you or your child? How many to make the tower bigger than your child?</p>         | <p><b>21 SCAVENGER HUNT</b><br/>Make numeral cards for the numerals 0 to 5 and hide them in your home. Go on a hunt. Did you find one that shows your child's age? One that shows how many fingers and toes? Or how many are in your family?</p>             | <p><b>22 BUG-A-BOO</b><br/>Bugs abound in the spring. Can your child find some insects around your neighborhood? Can your child act like them by jumping like a cricket, fluttering like a butterfly, or buzzing like a bee?</p>                                      | <p><b>23 NATURE WALK</b><br/>Go for a walk with your child. Look for objects or places that have names beginning with different sounds. (For example, bird starts with B, tree begins with T). Can you find things for the letters in your child's name?</p> |
| <p><b>24 ANIMAL ACTION</b><br/>Animals are all about in the spring time! Can your child move like animals? Can they hop like bunny, gallop like a horse, scamper like a squirrel, fly like a bird? What other animals can you imitate?</p> | <p><b>25 STOMP THE LETTER</b><br/>Write letters on the sidewalk using chalk. Ask your child to identify the letters of the alphabet by stomping on the letter that you call out. Start with letters in their name.</p> | <p><b>26 PUDDLE JUMP</b><br/>Wait for a rainy day, then put on your boots to jump in the puddles. Can your child make footprints? How many footprints can they make?</p>   | <p><b>27 HIPPIITY HOP</b><br/>Can your child hop like a bunny? Hop around your home or down the sidewalk. Can your child hop on one foot? Hop on two feet? Can your child switch from one foot to two feet, and back again?</p>                  | <p><b>28 STRETCH IT OUT!</b><br/>Stretching is good for you! Exercises that cross over the center of your body are helpful to fine motor skills. Ask your child to sit on floor and touch the left hand to right foot. Stand up and bend to each side.</p>   | <p><b>29 GET IN (THE) SHAPE</b><br/>Use sidewalk chalk to draw large shapes on the pavement (e.g., circle, square, triangle). Give your child simple directions to follow such as, "Stand inside the square", or "Put one foot inside of the circle."</p>             |  |
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| <p><b>April 4, 2022</b><br/><b>Music Monday</b></p>    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make homemade shakers and tambourines. For the shaker, you will need a small plastic container, buttons/jingle bells/beads. Put buttons, bells or beads into the container, secure with the lid and shake. For the tambourine you will need 2 paper plates, a hole punch, yarn, jingle bells and markers. Put the plates face to face and punch holes around the rim. String the yarn through a hole, then a jingle bell. Alternate this process until yarn is strung around the paper plates. Decorate the outsides with markers.</li> <li>2. Using your homemade instruments, play them to fast and slow music.</li> <li>3. Make a video of yourself playing the homemade instruments.</li> <li>4. Freeze Dance.</li> <li>5. Listen to your favorite music and have a dance party.</li> </ol> |
| <p>Parent Reading Activity</p> <p>(All children’s books can be found at your local library. For HPLS locations <a href="http://polaris.hclibrary.org/polaris/">http://polaris.hclibrary.org/polaris/</a>)</p> | <p><i>Chicka Chicka Boom Boom</i><br/>Authors: Bill Martin, Jr., John Archambault<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3w-DsrNzNbc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3w-DsrNzNbc</a></p> <p><i>Giraffe’s Can’t Dance</i><br/>Author: Giles Andreae<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UNRduYI_04">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UNRduYI_04</a></p>   |
| <p><b>April 5, 2022</b><br/><b>Tasty Tuesday</b></p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make a healthy snack that relates to a children’s book. For example, make a fruit and veggie tray after reading “Bear Sees Colors” by Karma Wilson.</li> <li>2. Read books about healthy eating. For example, “Eating the Alphabet” by Lois Ehlert or “The Vegetables We Eat” by Gail Gibbons. Try a new food.</li> <li>3. Plan a meal together and eat with the family. Involve children in meal preparation where appropriate.</li> <li>4. Build with grapes, marshmallows and toothpicks and enjoy eating together.</li> <li>5. Make juice pops. Pour juice into an ice cube tray, cover with plastic wrap and place a toothpick or popsicle stick in each slot of the ice cube tray. Freeze and enjoy!</li> </ol>   |
| <p>Parent Reading Activity</p>  | <p><i>Dragons Love Tacos</i><br/>Author: Adam Rubin<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMTCZZp3RbQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMTCZZp3RbQ</a></p> <p><i>The Ugly Vegetables</i><br/>Author: Grace Lin<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EshHID899Qc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EshHID899Qc</a></p>   |
| <p><b>April 6, 2022</b><br/><b>Work Together Wednesday</b></p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Build a paper playground out of materials found around the house like paper, construction paper, paper towel tubes and tape.</li> <li>2. See how tall you can make a tower out of Legos.</li> <li>3. Pretend that you are camping and make a tent out of blankets.</li> <li>4. Build bridges with craft sticks and solo cups. Run cars on them to see if your bridges fall over.</li> <li>5. Play Tug of War.</li> </ol>  |

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| <p>Parent Reading Activity</p>   | <p><i>Planting a Rainbow</i><br/>Author: Lois Ehlert<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_WhqKfIWSs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_WhqKfIWSs</a></p> <p><i>A Chair for My Mother</i><br/>Author: Vera B Williams<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCOSiVW896o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCOSiVW896o</a></p>  |
| <p><b>April 7, 2022</b><br/><b>Artsy Thursday</b></p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make playdough. Recipe: 3 cups flour, ¾ cup salt, ½ tsp. cream of tartar, 3 cups water, 4 TBS vegetable oil, desired food coloring. Directions: Mix dry ingredients in a nonstick pot. After mixing, create a well, in a separate bowl, mix liquid ingredients and pour into the nonstick pot and cook over medium high heat, stirring with a wooden spoon until almost set and dough forms a ball. Take the dough out of the pan, put on a hard surface and knead. Once cool, store in an air tight container or a zip lock baggie.</li> <li>2. Sidewalk Art: dip sidewalk chalk into water and draw outside on the sidewalk.</li> <li>3. Color folded coffee filter with markers and spray with water. Open to check out the cool designs.</li> <li>4. Experiment mixing 2 colors to make another color. For example, red + yellow = orange, yellow + blue = green, blue + red = purple. Use finger paints or tempera paint with sponges.</li> <li>5. Free draw to your favorite music. Use markers, crayons, colored pencils, or paint sticks and create a masterpiece!</li> </ol> |
| <p>Parent Reading Activity</p>   | <p><i>I am an Artist</i><br/>Author: Marta Altes<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awK_8n-rVnk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awK_8n-rVnk</a></p> <p><i>The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse</i><br/>Author: Eric Carle<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u8EP4EJ5oE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-u8EP4EJ5oE</a></p>   |
| <p><b>April 8, 2022</b><br/><b>Family Friday</b></p>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visit Historic Savage Mill and have a picnic at the park.</li> <li>2. Visit Patapsco Valley State Park and go hiking on their “hiker only” trails.</li> <li>3. Go see the Children’s Garden at Robinson Nature Center. There is also a Discovery Room for children.</li> <li>4. Create “In Studio” or “At Home” with the Pottery Stop.</li> <li>5. Have a family movie night or game night.</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Parent Reading Activity</p>   | <p><i>The Little House</i><br/>Author: Virginia Lee Burton<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7D-UnakYw7A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7D-UnakYw7A</a></p> <p><i>The Rainbow Fish</i><br/>Author Marcus Pfister<br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb2mslQo6TI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb2mslQo6TI</a></p>   |

\*\* Activities and book titles can be incorporated into classroom lesson plans or shared at home\*\*