Home learning activities: Sight

Doves: 3 months-20 months.

- Looking in a mirror

Point to and find different body parts. Talk about the features you can see. Compare your body parts to theirs i.e. “Daddy’s hair is brown and your hair is blonde”.

Learning objective: Enjoys finding own nose, eyes or tummy as part of naming games.

- Shiny objects

Find a variety of shiny objects e.g. CD’s, metal spoons, whisks etc. Position them so the sun shines on them and try and make reflections on the ceiling. What colours can you see when they reflect? What sounds can they make when you bang them together.?

Learning objective: Uses pointing with eye gaze to make a request and to share an interest.

- Cornflour gloop

Add food colouring or paint to water and slowly mix into the cornflour. Talk about the mixture being sticky or gloopy! Make a few bowls of different coloured gloop and pour into a tray. Can your child mix the different coloured gloops together? Scoop it up and let it drip from your fingers? Encourage your child to copy you.

Learning objective: Imitates and improvises actions they have observed.

Doves continued

- Peek-a-boo

Use your hands or a piece of light material to cover your face. Make different facial expressions every time you reveal your face. Can they copy your expression? Can they place their own hands in front of their face whilst you say Peek-a-boo?

Learning objective: Uses familiar adult to share feelings such as excitement or pleasure.

- Shredded paper

Hide objects in shredded paper. Can they lift up the paper to find them? Where are they hiding? Use facial expressions to express excitement at their achievements. :et them try and shred paper themselves to add to the pile.

Learning objective: Learns that own voice and actions have effects on others.

Starlings: 16 month-26 months

- Hide and seek

Hide a teddy or object of own choosing somewhere in the room you are in. Encourage them to close their eyes while you hide it. "1,2,3 lets find teddy". Then let them find teddy and choose the number to count to before you search for teddy.

Learning objective: Knowing things exist even when out of sight.

Starlings continued

- Colour hunt

Choose a colour to start with and find as many items as you can from around the house that are that colour. Then choose another colour. When you have a few groups of colours, count together to see which colour has the most.

Learning objective: Says some counting words

- Sensory bags

Use a sandwich bag filled with water, oil and food colouring. Add plastic toys or shaving foam to give it a different dimension. Can they move the foam around to find the different bits? "Can you find the ……?".

Learning objective: Understands simple sentences

- Painting with different objects

Use natural objects found outside or objects from around the house. Find items that have a different textured surface to explore and paint with. How do they look different? What happens when you paint with a leaf or a stick? Try pressing them down hard onto the paper

Learning objective: Shows control in holding/using mark making tools.

- Cloud spotting

Lay on a blanket in the garden and look up at the sky. What shapes can you see in the clouds? "I can see a….." Encourage them to point to a cloud and adult to vocalise what they can see.

Learning objective: Uses different types of everyday words.

Kingfishers 2 years-3 years

- Make a telescope

Use toilet rolls stuck together or kitchen rolls to make a telescope. What can you see when you look through them? Extend this activity by reading 'Shark in the Park' by Nick Sharratt together. Practice copying the directions in the story.

Learning objective: To begin to understand positional language

- Kim's game

Place a selection of items on the floor and encourage your child to have a good look at them. Cover them up with a tea towel and stealthy remove one. Take the cover off and see if your child can tell what is missing. Extend this activity by taking two items away at once.

Learning objective: To build memory recall.

- Hide and seek or Sardines

Play hide and seek indoors or outside, taking turns to count. Sardines is the opposite—one person hides and everyone counts. The object is to find the person and squash into their hiding place –the loser is the last one in!

Learning objective: Recite numbers in order.

- Make sensory bottles

Place water (clear and coloured with food colouring) and oil into a plastic bottle. You can then add a variety of small items, waterbeads, glitter, sequins etc. Glue the lid on and cellotape around the lid for extra safety. Ask your child what they can spy with their little eye!

Learning objective: Explore the effect that different materials have within the bottle. Can the describe what they can see?

Kingfishers continued

- I spy with my little eye

Play I spy with my little eye something that is…. And choose a colour (have a colour board to show them what colour you have named). Guess things you can see that are that colour.

Learning objective: To recognise a variety of colours and begin to name them/ match them.

Pre school 3+ years

- Scavanger hunt

Make a pictorial list for your child to follow. Encourage them to tick them off when they have been close enough to touch it e.g. the tree in the garden, a specific toy. Can they find all the items on the list?

Learning objective: To show awareness of their surroundings and their immediate environment. To note their data by recording marks on paper.

- Self portrait

Paint or draw a picture of yourself. Use a mirror to look at your features, noting the colour of hair, size of lips, shape of eyes etc. Once it is finished hold the portrait next to the mirror—does it look like you? Extend this activity by 'sitting' for your child and having your portrait drawn or painted. Do they pay close attention to your features? If they don't have exactly the right colours what can they do?

Learning objective: To look at and recognise the similarities and differences within their family and to choose colours for particular purpose.

Preschool continued

- Car tally: Make a tally chart for things you can see from your window e.g. colour of cars, types of animals, people. Record a mark in the correct column on your paper each time you see one of them. At the end see which column has the most marks. How did you record your mark? Can you decipher its meaning?

Learning objective: To begin to represent numbers using fingers, marks on paper or pictures and be able to explain their process. To add the marks and work out simple number problems.

- Make a volcano

Follow the link below to build your own erupting volcano. Do this outside to avoid mess!

http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/how-to-make-a-volcano/ Look at each of the ingredients separately and discuss what they think will happen. Encourage your child to watch closely as the ingredients are combined to see what happens as they begin to erupt. To extend this activity experiment with changing the amount of each ingredient. How does this effect the reaction?

Learning objective: To experiment with different media. To realise how to create a 'cause and effect'.

- Paint brushes

Make your own paint brushes using natural objects e.g. sticks, leaves, petals etc. Look at the different marks they leave on the paper. Use tape and glue to stick them together. What works best? Why? Are they strong enough?

Learning objective: To create new resources from naturally found objects. Find ways to make them using trial and error and explaining their reasoning.