

Things to do with your Duckling child

Communication

Listen to all different types of sounds inside and outside. Try to copy, describe the sounds.

Talk endlessly with your child. Listen to what they say!

Ask them questions about things/ encourage them to ask questions to find out about things

Literacy

Read and retell loads of stories- discuss characters, settings, predict endings. Make puppet shows based on books

Look for rhyming words. Make up rhyming strings- hod, bod, rod, wod cod. etc

Write messages to each other (magic messaging)

Maths

Work on reciting number to 10 : Clap the numbers, stamp the numbers

Count objects- make sure that they say one number name for each item counted

Count anything and everything

Check that they know that the last number you count represents what's in the set

Comparing groups of objects- eg each of you take handfuls of Cheerios and see who has more

Look at the shapes of things and chat about what they're like- straight, curved, flat, fat, solid, with corners etc

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Play board games and jigsaw puzzles- talk about sharing and turn taking

Discuss how it feels to win/lose

Talk about feelings in general and likes/dislikes

Understanding the World

Discuss your family- make simple family trees. Talk about differences and similarities between your childhood and theirs. Share old photos together

Enjoy the garden- observe and discuss changes. Collect leaves. Order them, print with them, make leaf rubbings

Look closely at animals – pets, birds, flies, spiders and chat about what they see. Compare different web patterns

Expressive Arts and Design

Draw- anything and everything, from direct observation and from imagination. Use different drawing materials- chalk, sticks dipped in paint, wet paintbrushes on pavements, scratching in mud, fingers in a sand tray.

Make arrangements with objects around the house- eg make a butterfly in the kitchen using plates and spoons

Play music- dance, sing, clap along. Get scarves out to help your child's movements.

Use pots and pans to bang on (have your earplugs ready)

Physical Development

Practice fine motor- peg washing out, thread beads, pick up cereal/dried beans with tweezers

Practice ball skills- kick, throw, catch

Practice name writing- focus on a good tripod pen grip (see below)

Tripod Grip

