

One-Page Tips

FOR LEARNING
& PLAYING AT HOME

From the Prince George's County Employee's Child Care Center and
The Prince George's County Public Schools Employees' Child Care Center



PRE-SCHOOL EDITION 1

APRIL: TAKING CARE OF OUR EARTH, THE WIDE WORLD OF PLANTS.

APRIL VOCABULARY FOR PRE-SCHOOL: GARDEN, FLORIST, ROOTS, POLLEN, MINERALS, NECTAR, PETALS, BUDS



- **You may, possibly have a plant at home, find out it's name and label it.** Talk about how most plants need 1. Sun 2. Soil 3. Air 4. Water. Measure it and make a "growth chart" or graph. (*science, math*)

- **Make a puppet plant:** use an artificial flower and a stick or a sock with decoration: Now, make up a story about the puppet looking for water, soil, sun, air (*arts, language arts, science*)

- **If you have any seeds on hand, start growing them in a cup.** Talk about how plants must start with a seed or bulb. Plant a button in another cup. Which will grow? Find a parent approved YouTube on starting seeds. (*science, technology*)

- **Read as much as you can from your family stack of children's books.** Talk about the author and illustrator. Remember young children like to hear the same book repeatedly.



- **Allow child(ren) to cook with you.** Did any of the foods begin with a plant? Corn, carrots, beans?

- **Tell stories:** parents can tell about their favorite story from childhood: Gingerbread Man, House that Jack Built, Three Bears, add hand motions and gestures to the story and let a child tell it back to you. Ask children what their favorite story is about. Remind them of their classroom, ask what favorite books were read at school? Make a chart. (*language arts, recall*)

- **Water play:** use some beach towels under a tub of water, add a funnel and measuring cups. (*math, science, tactile, sensory*) Of course, you can just do the same with the child in the tub.

- **Shel Silverstein:** "There are too many kids in the tub, too many elbows to scrub, I'm sure I just shined a behind that's not mine. There are too many kids in the tub," Look up more of this famous authors poems – he is on YouTube (*language, literature, technology*)

- **Paint:** if you have some food coloring, you can make small batches of paint. For example put a few drops into each section of a Styrofoam egg carton or a plastic lid and use Q-tips or cut up a sponge into strips for a brush (*tactile, sensory, arts*)



- **Large muscle play:** your children are used to running either outside or (more confined) indoors. Mid-morning and twice in the afternoon – just 20 to 30 minutes will make a difference. Resting for toddlers, 2s, 3s & 4s they need over 12 hours of sleep, daily. Set a nap-time 12:30 -2:30 pm is what they would do at school. Of course, we all know this is harder at home.



**DON'T FORGET
YOU CAN REPEAT
ACTIVITIES YOU
ENJOY. THINKING OF
YOU, MORE ONE
PAGE TIPS TO COME.**