

Home Activities

To increase fine motor skills-

- Designate an area for playdough/clay (maybe a patio)
- Set up a travel art box for car trips- include note pads and Markers or colored pencils to record things seen along the way
- Water color or even paint with water the driveway
- Sidewalk chalk drawings in driveway
- Cut coupons or pictures from magazines and catalogs
- Allow them to dress themselves (buttons and zippers)
- Use soap paints in the tub
- When drawing pictures encourage detail by asking questions (What color was the sky? Who was with you?)
- Encourage manipulatives like Legos, lacing cards, puzzles, and stringing beads

To increase language skills-

- Play rhyming games (Ex. I spy something that rhymes with star- car)
- Ask open-ended questions that require more than a one word. (Ex. "What do you think?" Or "Tell me about that.")
- Encourage full sentences when speaking
- Check out books at the library and read to them daily
- Ask them questions about the story when finished
- Encourage proper articulation

To increase Pre-reading skills-

- Place magnetic letters on fridge. Spell words with missing beginning or ending letter and have child guess the missing letter
- Encourage "environmental" reading (Stop signs, Exit signs, cereal boxes, Men's room, Women's room, McDonald's, etc.)
- Read daily to them and let them see you reading for pleasure
- Give books as gifts
- Look for letters of the month in the newspaper and circle

To increase math skills-

- Collect and sort items (Ex. Shells, rocks, marbles, beads)
- Encourage lots of counting activities (Ex. Plates and forks for table, number of plants in the yard, number of crackers for snack, etc.)
- Fold napkins into shapes (Ex. Rectangles, triangles)

To increase social/emotional skills-

- Allow child to make choices (Ex. Would you like to wear the blue shirt or the red shirt today?)
- Give child chores to do (Ex. Set the table, feed a pet, sort socks)
- Encourage them to stay on task and to focus.