

Age: Birth-12 months
Skills: Language/Communication/
Social-Emotional

Materials: Words to
Fingerplay

Five Little Sea Shells

Parent Tip:

Your child enjoys listening to your voice and loves to play one-on-one games with you. Singing, talking calmly and reading to your young child also builds strong relationships.

Activity:

Five little seashells lying on the shore.
Here comes a wave-SPLASH! Now there are four.

Four little seashells sitting by the sea.
Here comes a wave-SPLASH! Now there are three.

Three little seashells-that's just a few.
Here comes a wave-SPLASH! Now there are two.

Two little seashells basking in the sun!
Here comes a wave-SPLASH! That leaves one.

One little seashell and the day is gone.
Here comes a wave-SPLASH! And now there are none.



Age: 18 -24 months
Skills: Motor Development/
Language/Communication

Materials: Beach Ball

Beach Ball Toss

Parent Tip:

Young children enjoy catching, throwing, tossing and rolling balls that are easy for them to hold onto and manipulate. A beach ball is great for young children because of its size.

Activity:

Toss the beach ball to your child and show them how to catch, toss, roll and throw the ball. Remember to set your child up for success by standing close enough to them so they can catch the ball.

Roll the ball, back and forth to each other, over and over again. Your toddler will enjoy playing outdoors with you and the beach ball.

Older toddlers will want to know the names of the different colors on the ball, so you have the opportunity to teach colors to your child. You can teach your toddler some new words while doing this activity such as toss, roll, catch, fast and slow.



Age: 24-36 months
Skills: Language & Communication/
Cognitive/Gross Motor/Fine Motor

Materials: Bubbles and
wands

Bubble Fun

Parent Tip: Older toddlers need to explore and discover, as well as learn new words. Teaching your child about the magic of bubbles allows them to compare, predict and observe at a young age. They can tell you which ones are big and little. Point to which way the bubbles are moving. And observe up and down motions of the bubbles.

Activity:

1. Purchase a container of bubbles. They come in many different sizes and containers.
2. Take your child outside and show him how to blow bubbles. Let him try to blow bubbles.
3. As you and your child play with the bubbles talk about the size, and observe how fast the bubbles move on a windy day.
4. Look for homemade bubble recipes on the world wide web.



Age: 3,4, & 5 Year-Olds
Skills: Language/
Communication/Social-Emotional/
Motor/Science

Materials: Sand tub or sandbox,
Sand, Items to hide (sea shells,
plastic sea animals, plastic boats,
etc.)

Beach Combing

Parent Tip: Pre-school age children learn through exploring, discovery and the pure sensory enjoyment of sand play.

Activity:

1. Fill a sand tub or sandbox with clean fresh play sand.
2. Hide a variety of beach items (sea shells, plastic sea animals, plastic boats) in the sand.
3. Next, let your child know that you have hidden beach treasure for her to find in the sand.
4. Give her the comb and encourage her to comb through the sand to search for the hidden objects.
5. As your child finds the object let them describe the color, texture and names of each object.

