**Problem Solving: the process of finding solutions to difficult or complex issues.**

What babies started to do and learn in their first 12 months really takes off during the next 12. Through their play experiences and interactions with you (remember, you are still their favorite toy!), they continue to figure out how the world around them works. Read on to see what young toddlers are up to during this time—and what you can do to support your toddler’s development.

**Tips for helping children learn problem solving through play:**

- Show your toddler how to use toys in new ways. For example, you might put the spoon in the cup and stir. Then hand it to him and see what he does. Or pretend to give his stuffed bear a sip.
- Model the words children should use when playing with others, including “Hi! I’m Logan,” “Can I play?”, “My turn?”, and “Thank you.” Toddlers will need to hear these words many, many times before they learn to use them. (This is one area where repetition is really important!)
- Use a toy telephone to help your child “talk” to you or other family members. Use dolls or puppets to “talk” with your child. Sit with your child in front of a mirror and say, “hello!” to each other.
- Ask your child to do a “one-step” request—this means asking him to do one thing, such as “please get your shoes” or “pick up the ball, please.” As your child approaches age 2, try adding a second step: “Please pick up the ball and give it to me.”
- Create a toddler obstacle course where your child has a chance to crawl (through a moving box), climb (over a cushion), bounce (on a pile of blankets), and roll toward you for a kiss.

**Motor Frog Life Cycle**

**You will Need:**
- 1 Big green pom pom • 1 medium green pom pom • Several small white pom poms • 4 googly eyes • Blue construction paper • Green construction paper • Glue • Scissors • 2” circle punch (optional)

**How to Make it:**
1. Make the frog eggs by gluing small pom poms to the blue construction paper.
2. Make the tadpoles by cutting out a tail shape from the green construction paper. Glue a green pom pom to the tail and add the googly eyes.
3. Make the Frog by cutting a slender rectangle from the short side of the construction paper. Fold it accordion style. Cut this then into fourths and glue them together. Glue the big green pom pom to the legs. Then glue the googly eyes on!

**Kids in the Kitchen: Bolder Tuna**

**Ingredients**
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice • 1 cup minced celery • 1 apple • 2 teaspoons relish or chopped pickles • 2 7-ounce cans tuna in water • 1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley leaves • 1 apple • 3 tablespoons low-fat plain Greek or regular low-fat plain yogurt • 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice • 1/2 teaspoon mustard

**To Make:**
Put the tuna in a small bowl and break up the clumps with the fork. Add the rest of the ingredients and mix well. Cover and refrigerate at least one hour to let the flavors mingle. You may store refrigerated up to 3 days.

Source: https://www.chopchopfamily.org/recipe/bolder-tuna

---

**Census 2020 is here! Be sure to respond starting March 12th!** and help Alaska receive critical funding for healthcare, education, and more! Click here to respond online! [https://respond.census.gov/acs/#respond](https://respond.census.gov/acs/#respond)

---

**AEYC has Three New Parent Educators**

Thanks to the STEPS grant from Alaska School Boards, and Alaska Dept. of Health and Social Services, AEYC has three new parent educators. For the months of April and May, all Juneau parents of newborns will be offered home visiting as part of a pilot to offer shorter term service, connecting with families earlier and supporting a strong, well supported start. Special thanks to the STEPS grant for keeping Parents As Teachers open during a six month state funding gap this fall.

March 2020 What’s Going On?

Get out your highlighter and choose the events you want to attend this month!

SPECIAL EVENTS
3/2 Healthy Pregnancy: 5:30pm–7pm. Robert Valliant Administration Building, First Floor. Register at bartletthospital.org, Info: 907.796.8975 📞
3/6 First Friday: Come out join local businesses, organizations, artists, and the public for a free community event the first Friday of every month. This event runs from 4:30pm–7:00pm. 📞
3/5 Childbirth Preparation: 12:42pm–3:12pm. Robert Valliant Administration Building, First Floor. Register at bartletthospital.org, Info: 907.796.8975 📞
3/7 Dads n Kiddos Play Group: 9-11am. Sponsored by BRH. Northern Lights Church, 400 W. 11th St. Info: 796-8975 📞
3/7 ASL Playgroup: 11am-12pm. Call 586-1203 or email info@juneaubirthcenter.org 📞
3/12 AEYC STEAM Symposium:5:30-8:30pm. Call 586-5765 or email info@jaeyc-sea.org 📞
3/12 CENSUS 2020 BEGINS 📞
3/13 AEYC STEAM Symposium:7:30am-4:30pm. Call 789-1235 or email info@jaeyc-sea.org 📞
3/14 AEYC STEAM Symposium:8am-5pm. Call 789-1235 or email info@jaeyc-sea.org 📞
3/18 Just for Dads: 6pm–8:30pm. Robert Valliant Administration Building, First Floor, Register at bartletthospital.org, Info: 907.796.8975 📞
3/21 ASL Playgroup: 11am-12pm. Call 586-5765 or email info@juneaubirthcenter.org 📞
3/25 Breastfeeding Café: JFBC , 1-2pm 9am-10am. ☺

Be sure to check out the AEYC-SEA Facebook Page for more fun events this March!

Imagination Library Early Learning Activity

BOOK TITLE: Big Brother, Little Brother
AUTHOR: Marci Curtis
AGE GROUP: Age 2
SUMMARY OF BOOK: This book is about the different things brothers do.
BEFORE READING: Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book. Try questions such as these:
1. What are some of the things that you and your brother/sister do? (If the child does not have a sibling, ask about things he or she does with another family member.)
2. Are you a big brother/sister or a little brother/sister? (Again, if the child does not have siblings, ask about other family members—“Are you my son or daughter?” “Are you a cousin?”

DURING READING (Ask these questions):
Talk about each of the things that Peter does in the snow. Imagine that your child is Peter and add more details:
1. “Do you know what it means to ‘munch’?” If not, explain that munching is a type of chewing.
2. Have you ever: washed dishes, had a race, played baseball, helped your brother/sister/friend when they were hurt or sad, tied your shoes?
3. Do you know what the word “bulge” means? If not, explain the meaning.

AFTER READING (Activities to extend book experience):
1. If you have a photo album or photos of you with your siblings, show them to your child and tell him/her what was going on when the picture was taken.
2. If there are pictures of the child with siblings, show them to the child and talk about what was going on when the picture was taken. If the child remembers when the picture was taken, s/he can talk about that time.
3. If the child has a sibling, have the children do some of the activities that were in the book.

**This activity was created by students at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**

Your Dollars Make a Difference - Support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Did you know that donations from supportive people like YOU make books available to children all over SE Alaska? For $30 a year you can ensure that a child receives a free book in the mail every month. Make your tax deductible donation today at: http://www.aeyc-sea.org/imagina -library.html. A big thanks to Volunteer Librarians Patty George and Trish Custard for giving their time to keep this program running smoothly!

The Juneau Parent Bulletin is created by AEYC in coordination with Partnerships for Families and Children, with funding support from thread. Find us and Like us on Facebook! AEYC | 3200 Hospital Dr. Ste. 204, Juneau, AK | 907-789-1235 | www.aeyc-sea.org