

Art

What to do

1. Prior to the lesson, fill the 11" x 14" pan half full with colored water.
2. Give each child a piece of wax paper to use as a work surface and a cotton swab. Ask them to dip their cotton swabs into the pan with cooking oil.
3. Take this oil-soaked cotton swab and draw on the white paper, creating a design. Make sure there is always enough oil on the cotton swab.
4. When the design is complete, attach a clothespin to one end of the paper.
5. The child picks up the paper with the clothespin, puts the paper in the pan of colored water and pulls it through the pan so the entire paper is submerged.
6. Remove the paper and allow it to dry.
7. Discuss why the colored water did not adhere to the oil designs—because oil and water do not mix.

More to do

More art: Children can write secret codes or messages or make secret designs for their friends. The recipient can read the message by placing the paper in colored water.

■ Sandra Fisher, Kutztown, PA

Peas & Toothpicks Sculpture

5+

Science skills

Downloaded by test@gryphonhouse.com from ProFilePlanner.com
Children develop fine motor skills as they build a sculpture.

ProFilePlanner.com

Materials

Whole dried peas
Round toothpicks
Paper plates

What to do

1. Soak the peas overnight in enough water to cover. They should be firm, but soft enough for a toothpick to be pushed in easily. Keep the peas covered so they won't dry out.
2. At the art table, lay out the peas and toothpicks. Each child gets a paper plate on which to build his sculpture.
3. Demonstrate how to push the toothpicks into the peas gently. The children may tend to connect one after another into a long line. You may need to guide them to build a more three-dimensional building. It would be helpful to have examples previously made for them to look at.
4. Allow the sculptures to dry. As the peas dry they will create a firm bond to the toothpicks.

■ Valerie Chellew, Marshfield, WI

3+

Bathing Babies

Science skills

With the fun of play in warm, soapy water, children learn about water safety and practice fine motor skills.

Materials

Several baby dolls
Water table or baby tubs
Wash cloths
Bathtub safety seats
Towels

Warm water
Baby soap and/or shampoo bottles (trial size)
Rinsing cups
Water thermometers

What to do

1. Fill water table or tub with warm soapy water.
2. Add toys, wash cloths, sponges, cups and thermometers to water along with dolls.
3. Talk about how to hold the baby while bathing or show the bathtub safety seat and discuss how they help keep babies safe and other water safety tips.
4. Allow the child to use soap/shampoo to give the baby a bath, rinse, sing, play in water, etc.
5. Towel dry the babies and you're done. Babies are all clean!

Downloaded by test@gryphonhouse.com from

More to do

ProFilePlanner.com

Home living: To enhance fine motor skills, allow the children to try to diaper and dress the dry baby dolls after bathing them. ■ Expand self-help skills by allowing the children to dress themselves this week as the opportunity arises. Use circle time to practice putting on socks, shoes, coats, sweaters, hats, mittens, etc.

■ Tina R. Woehler, Flower Mound, TX

3+

Lotion Play

Science skills

In this wonderfully messy activity children use their senses and develop fine motor skills.

Materials

Trays or clean tabletop
Baby lotion (hypo-allergenic)
Old combs, toothbrushes, frosting spreaders, paintbrushes, etc.