

Sample

24 Preschool Learning Ideas



Literacy - Math - Science - Fine Motor- Sensory - Gross Motor
Art - Social Studies - Circle Time

www.PreschoolUnitLessonPlans.com

A Note About Safety:

The activities in this book are intended to be done under adult supervision. Appropriate and reasonable caution is required at all times. Beware when using all materials and tools suggested in this book, including but not limited to scissors, hot glue or objects that could pose a choking hazard. Observe safety and caution at all times. The authors of this book disclaim all liability for any damage, mishap or injury that may occur from engaging in activities in this book.

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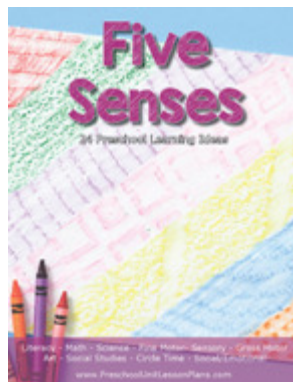
Fall



Winter



Color



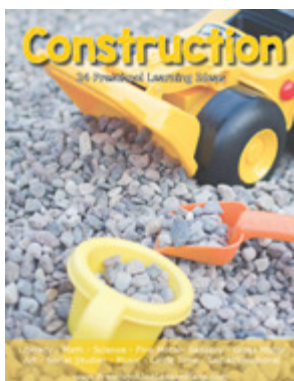
Five Senses



Farm



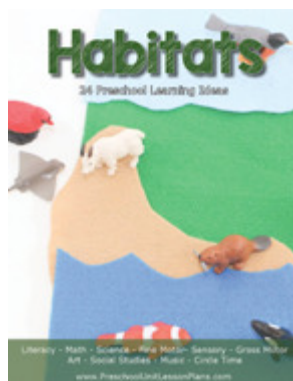
Space



Construction



All About Me



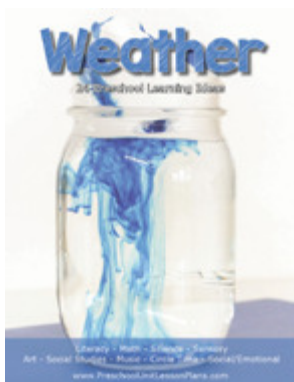
Habitats



Spring



Bugs Butterflies



Weather



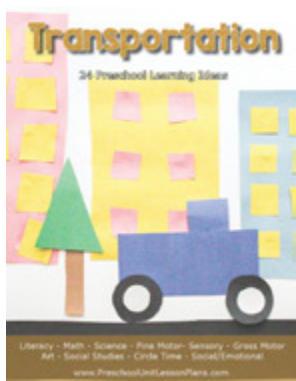
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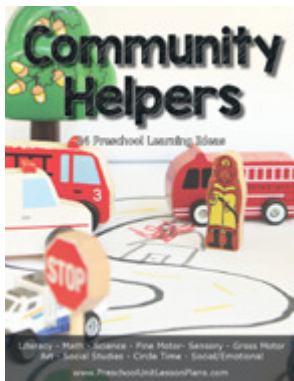
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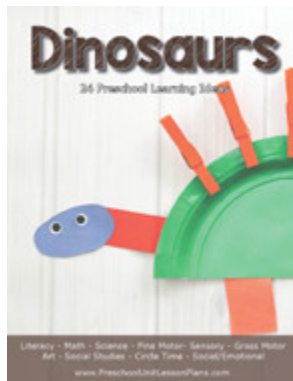
Flowers Trees



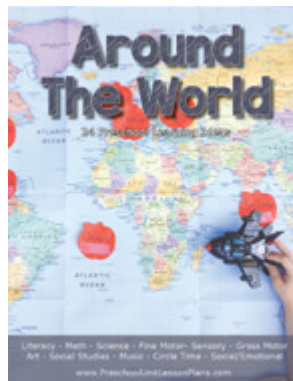
Transportation



Community Helpers



Dinosaurs



Around The World



Summer

About the Authors



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Amber Mathison

Amber is a former preschool teacher turned homeschooling mom of 3. She loves creating and sharing crafts, activities, and printables that encourage children to learn through play, creativity, and hands-on exploration.

<http://fromabcstoacts.com>



Christy McGuire

Christy taught physics in the high school setting. She now enjoys learning beside her own four children and developing new ways to lay strong foundations in science and math for all young children.

<http://www.thrivingstem.com>



Clarissa Hooper

Clarissa is a former elementary teacher and current homeschool mom of two active boys. In addition to homeschooling, she also runs a community based homeschool co-op group dedicated to helping parents home preschool their children.

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Devany LeDrew is a kindergarten teacher who is now homeschooling her own two children. She shares play based learning activities to inspire discovery and facilitate learning.

<http://www.stillplayingschool.com>



Karen Haynes

Karen has experience as an early elementary teacher and RTI coordinator. She is also a mom to two little boys. She has a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education and loves to share ideas for teaching reading and writing.

<http://abcsofliteracy.com>



Katie T. Christiansen

Katie has been in the early childhood field for over 10 years as a teacher and school administrator. She is a mom of three and considers preschool to be one of her favorite ages. She loves play-based learning and sharing about child development.

<http://www.preschoolinspirations.com>



Kim Staten

Kim has been homeschooling her four daughters for 10 years, She loves creating hands-on activities that reach kids of all abilities. She has a special interest in making learning accessible for special needs children like her youngest daughter.

<http://lifeovercs.com>



Kristina Couturier

Kristina is a homeschooling mom of 4, with another "student" on the way. She created School Time Snippets to share what her oldest was learning to family and friends far away, however it has expanded to sharing hands-on learning and play activities for children of all ages- from birth to elementary.

<http://www.schooltimesnippets.com>



Lisette Thompson

Lisette is a former preschool teacher turned work-at-home daycare provider and mom. She enjoys creating fun hands-on kids activities and crafts for toddlers, preschoolers, and early elementary aged children.

<http://whereimaginationgrows.com>



Nicolette Roux

Nicolette is a homeschooling Mom to 4 little people. She loves to share her simple and easy crafts & activities, printables and learning ideas for baby, toddler and preschoolers!

<http://powerfulmothering.com>



Sheryl Cooper

Sheryl has been teaching toddlers and preschoolers for over 18 years in a private preschool setting. She loves to share her teaching tips and playful learning activities with teachers, parents, and anyone with young children in their lives.

<https://teaching2and3yearolds.com>



Introduction

From mastering the letters of the alphabet to fine motor play, preschoolers are constantly learning about their world through hands-on activities. This book will provide lesson plans and hands-on activities centered around a specific theme. These are called thematic lesson plans.

Whether you are a parent, care-giver, or teacher, this book is easy to use. It is a guide to learning with a focus on interactive experiences. Each activity contains a learning objective, material list, and step by step directions.

How to Use This Book

First, page through the lesson plans to get a quick overview of the activities. Decide which activities would best fit the age and needs of the children in your care. Sort the activities into different days. It is recommended to read each book in the unit every day, but you may plan to focus and go more in depth on one book each day. When making your learning plan, consider alternating active activities with quiet activities to provide preschoolers with the opportunity to balance out the learning day. Add in open ended indoor and outdoor playtime activities. Use the list on the following pages for ideas. Thoughtful planning and interactive activities can make a learning day more enjoyable.

Gather the materials needed for each activity selected. Organizing materials ahead of time will allow you to focus on the play and learning without interruptions. Collect the books needed from the library, your own bookshelves, or purchase from a book store. Place the books and materials in large bags, containers, or a designated area. If you have toys or dress up items related to the theme set them in a basket and place them in the pretend play area for children to explore.

Finally, do the selected activities with the children. If the learning activity is too difficult or too easy, look for activity extensions and ideas for how to modify the activity to provide more support or to extend the learning. Feel free to make your own modifications to the activities as you know the children best. Most activities will take anywhere between 15 and 30 minutes to complete. Take the behavior cues from the children to assess if they are ready to move on or would like more time.

Indoor Playtime Activity Ideas

- Beach ball and laundry basket basketball
- Cars in cardboard box tunnels
- Painting and coloring
- Making music with instruments
- Pretending with dolls
- Playing dress up
- Puzzles and board games

Outdoor Playtime Activities

- Sidewalk chalk
- Tossing and catching balls
- Three-wheel riding toys
- Scooping and pouring in the sandbox
- Water exploration with cups
- Swinging and sliding

Space

Concepts:

Sun, moon, stars

Recommended Reading:

How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers
On the Launch Pad: A Counting Book About Rockets by Michael Dahl
Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me by Eric Carle
Zoo in the Sky by Jaqueline Mitton
The Sun is My Favorite Star by Frank Asch

Recommended Songs:

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
Rocketship Run by The Laurie Berkner Band
Moon Moon Moon by The Laurie Berkner Band
Zoom Zoom Zoom We're Going to the Moon by The Kiboomers
Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun by Super Simple Songs
Hey Diddle Diddle
Blast Off by Stephanie Burton

Activities at a glance:

Literacy:

Moon Landing
Name Rocket
Moon Sand Writing Tray
Shooting Star Syllables
S is for Star

Math:

Counting Sun Rays
Star Ten Frame Cards
Space Spin & Cover
Moon Rock Math
Constellation Geoboard
Moon Phase Sequencing

Science:

What is Air
Straw Rockets
Constellation Play Dough
Moon Craters

Art:

Moon and Sun Collage
Hidden Moon Pictures

Social studies:

Myself as an Astronaut

Fine motor:

Moon Rock Letters
Constellation Creations

Sensory:

Counting Stars Sensory Bin
Star Sensory Bottle

Gross motor:

Catching Stars Game
Alphabet Match Stars

Circle Time:

Rocket Countdown Activity

Rocket Ship & Stars



Book based on:

On the Launch Pad

Skills targeted:

Gross motor, math

Materials:

- Rocket ships and stars printables
- White Cardstock
- Scissors
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Glue

How to:

This Rocket Ship and Stars Counting Activity is a fun way to get children moving around the room as they practice identifying numbers and counting. Learning to identify numbers and count in preschool will set the foundation for learning and increase children's comfort and confidence when working with more advanced math and number concepts.

To prepare this activity, print the rocket ships and stars on white card stock. Print four copies of the star sheet. Laminate the papers for extra durability and cut all of the pieces apart. Next, glue each rocket ship onto a craft stick. After the glue dries, put the rocket ships into a large cup or can. Place the stars throughout the room.

After reading the book *On the Launch Pad: A Counting Book About Rockets* by Michael Dahl, children will select a rocket out of the cup or can. They will identify the number on the rocket. The children will then walk around the room and pick up the same number of stars that is printed on their rockets. For example, if a child has a rocket with the number 5 written on it, he or she will pick up five stars.

After collecting their stars, children can compare their numbers and line up in numerical order.

Modifications / extra ideas:

To extend this activity, the adult will select two children to combine their stars together. They will work together to count and add their stars. The children can also practice writing number sentences on a piece of paper or on a whiteboard.

Adapt:

For children who are unable to identify the number on their rocket ships, give them a visual representation of the number using a number chart or manipulatives. If a child selects a rocket with the number 9 on it but can't identify the number, for example, count and draw 9 tally marks on a white board. Then, cross off a tally mark each time the child picks up a star until he or she had collected all 9 of them.

