



Division of Child Care

**Toddler Activities 12-24 Months
Part One**

Development Area	Week One All About Me	Week Two ABC/123	Week Three Bubbles	Week Four Farmers Market/Apples	Week Five Fall
Language and Reading	<p>-Familiar People Picture Books (photos of familiar faces) Look at pictures of family and friends. For older toddlers, create a picture book with photos of familiar people. Encourage them to help create the book. Flip through the photos while pointing/naming each person. Encourage your toddler to practice naming people.</p> <p>-Emotions – Look at pictures of different emotions with your toddler. Talk about happy, sad, mad, etc. and mimic the facial expressions.</p>	<p>-Sing Five Little Ducks (words can be found online)</p> <p>-Sing ABC's</p> <p>-Sing Five Little Monkey's Jumping on the Bed</p>	<p>-Washing Hands – Use soap and water to wash your toddler's hands. When bubbles start to form talk about them or sing a song.</p> <p>-Bath Time – Add soap to the bath water to form a bubble bath. Pick up the clumps of bubbles and observe with your toddler. Talk about what they are as you move them around. Encourage your toddler to pile soap bubbles on their hands and blow them off.</p>	<p>-During mealtimes, talk about fruits and vegetables as you are preparing/feeding your toddler *Describe shapes, colors, textures and smell verbally to your toddler.</p> <p>-Look at pictures of markets and/or read books about markets and apples.</p>	<p>-Fall Nature Walk – Go on a walk or look out the window to observe leaves falling. Describe what is happening to the leaves as they change colors and fall to the ground.</p> <p>-Sing Five Little Pumpkins (words can be found online and by searching on YouTube)</p>

Math and Science

-Dump and Fill – Fill a container full of toys, towels, socks, etc. Dump the container on the floor and repeat. Encourage your toddler to join in to dump and fill.

-Tumble Towers – collect materials from your home that will stack. Cereal boxes, canned food, blocks, etc. Count and stack the items (up to five) with your toddler. For younger toddlers, encourage them to knock the tower over. For older toddlers, encourage them to build with you before knocking the tower over.

-Colored Ice Cubes and Water (use food coloring or paint and water to create ice cubes.) Explore ice cubes in a small basin of water while supervising your toddler. Provide paper for a unique work of art. Talk about how the ice cube feels/tastes and what is happening to it as it melts.

-Oil & Water Sensory Bags (squirt some oil in a zip lock bag. Add colored water and seal with tape) Encourage the toddler to touch the bag to investigate the materials. Can be taped to the floor/table or tape to a window to create a different visual effect.

-Pouring Station – Provide your toddler with a basin of water, spoons, cups and sponges. Encourage them to transfer water using the various materials. For older infants, model how to pour water from one cup to another.

-Blender Bubbles (add soap and water to a blender or mixer to create a thick foam.) Add color to the foam mixture or explore as is. Add cups, spoons and toys to the mixture. Add toys (baby dolls, plastic animals, etc.) for toddlers to wash.

-Bubble Sensory Bottles – Add soap and water to an empty water bottle. Encourage your infant to reach and grab the bottle. For older infants, encourage them to shake the bottle to make bubbles.

-Prepare a selection of fresh fruits and vegetables for mealtime. Encourage your toddler to explore the foods with their hands.

- Touching/Tasting Apples – Provide your toddler with apples to touch, smell and taste. For older toddlers, select apples with different colors. Talk about the colors and the taste of the apples.

-Mini Pumpkins in Water – Place mini pumpkins in a shallow basin of water. While supervising your infant, encourage them to touch, grab and move the pumpkins around with their hands. Discuss how they feel and move with your infant.

-Box of Leaves – Collect leaves from outside and an empty box. Put the leaves inside the box for your toddler to explore. Provide a small broom or rake to encourage them to rake and collecting the leaves.

-Playdough Cookie Cutter Shapes – Provide your toddler with playdough in fall colors. Encourage them to use cookie cutters to cut out shapes in the playdough. Add cinnamon or pumpkin pie seasoning for older toddlers. *Playdough recipes can be found online and made with everyday cooking materials.

<p>Fine Motor and Gross Motor</p>	<p>-Body Parts - While holding/playing with infant, point to simple body parts while naming them. (Ex. Fingers, toes, eyes, nose, etc.). For older toddlers, place stickers on body parts as you name them. Encourage them to place the stickers by themselves as you name each body part. EX. Nose, toes, legs, arms, hands, etc.</p> <p>-Emotion Jump – Use sidewalk chalk to draw faces with different emotions on them. Model walking/jumping on the emotions as you name them. Encourage your toddlers to do the same.</p>	<p>-Masking Tape Shape Walk – Use masking tape (or chalk) to put shapes on the floor. Practice walking/hopping to or on each shape. For older toddlers, have an action move for each shape and model the action with them. EX. Circle=spin, triangle=touch your toes, etc.</p> <p>-Puzzles – Gather two different puzzles. Remove the pieces and place them in a pile. Encourage your toddler to sort the pieces into the right puzzle.</p>	<p>-Blowing Bubbles – Blow bubbles while your infant is close by. Talk about how they float and disappear. For older infants, encourage reaching for the bubbles as they fall to the ground.</p> <p>-Making Bubbles – Create a shallow basin of soap and water. With supervision, provide your toddler with spoons and whisks. Using their hands/fingers, encourage them to mix the soapy water to make bubbles.</p>	<p>-Masking Tape Apple Picking – Use masking tape to create a tree shape on the floor. Create long lines to resemble branches. Place apples (or balls) at the end of each branch. Encourage your toddler to walk on the masking tape lines to collect each apple.</p> <p>-Apples and Tongs – Fill a large bowl with water (optional) and place five apples in the bowl. Provide your toddler with a large pair of tongs. Encourage them how to pick up the apples with the tongs and remove them from the bowl.</p>	<p>-Shake Art – Collect pinecones or acorns for art. Place paper, paint and nature items into a sealed container. Encourage your toddler to shake the container to make sounds. Remove the paper to reveal a one of a kind piece of art.</p> <p>-Leaf Play/Catch – Rake up a pile of leaves outside. Encourage your toddler to move around and play in the leaves. Toss leaves in the air to encourage jumping, running and catching leaves.</p>
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Materials Needed

Tongs, apples, large bowl
 Ziploc bags, cooking oil, food coloring (optional) and materials from nature
 Basket/bucket, toys, baby dolls
 Paint, paper and chalk
 Playdough and cookie cutters

*Substitute materials for things you have on hand if needed



Division of Child Care

**Toddler Activities 12-24 Months
Part Two**

Development Area	Week One Pumpkins	Week Two Sensory Exploration	Week Three Farm Animals	Week Four Fall	Week Five Additional Experiences
<p>Language and Reading</p>	<p>-Read/sing “Five Little Pumpkins” with your infant. *Words can be found online.</p> <p>-Go on a walk around your neighborhood. Point out and describe any pumpkins you may see on your walk.</p>	<p>-Read touch and feel books. Describe how the book feels as your toddler explores the textures with their hands.</p> <p>-Use descriptive words throughout the day to describe your surroundings. Talk about the color of the trees, the sky, what sounds you hear outside, how food tastes, etc.</p>	<p>-Read books about farm animals. Visit your local library for resources.</p> <p>-Sing “Old McDonald Had a Farm” with your toddler. Ask what sounds each animal makes.</p> <p>*Words can be found online.</p>	<p>-Go on a walk around your neighborhood. Look for falling leaves. Describe what is happening and what the leaves sound like when blowing across the ground.</p>	<p>-Language Development- It is important to talk to your toddler as much as possible throughout the day to foster language development. Talking and singing with your toddler while preparing meals, changing diapers, doing bath time, etc. will expose your toddler to new words every day.</p> <p>-Conversations are important. Tell your toddler what you are doing and why. Watch for a response and continue the conversation.</p>

<p>Math and Science</p>	<p>-Big/Little – Place a big pumpkin and a smaller pumpkin on the floor. Examine the pumpkins with your toddler while talking about the different sizes. As your toddler touches each pumpkin talk about which one is bigger/smaller and heavier/lighter. For older toddlers, ask them, which one is big and little.</p> <p>-Dissect a Pumpkin – Cut open a pumpkin and place the insides in a bowl. While supervising, encourage your toddler to explore the pumpkin “guts” and the seeds. For toddlers who do not like the feel of the pumpkin, place the insides into a Ziploc for mess free exploration.</p>	<p>- Contact Paper Exploration – Tape a piece of contact paper to a flat surface. Encourage your toddler to touch the sticky side of the paper. Provide small toys or pieces of paper for them to stick to the contact paper. Place on a window or door and encourage your toddler to stick tissue paper to the sticky side for a unique art experience.</p> <p>- Painting with Water – Using construction paper, water and something to paint with (cotton ball, Q-tip, paintbrush, etc.) provide your toddler with a chance to paint on the paper with water and see what happens as the water dries.</p> <p>-Scented Play Dough – Search online for a simple play dough recipe. Use the play dough base and add different scents to create an enriched sensory experience. Pumpkin spice and cinnamon are great spices to start with. Provide cookie cutters or spoons for them to explore the play dough.</p>	<p>- Muddy Animals – Use brown paint (or dirt mixed with water) to fill the bottom of a shallow container. Encourage your toddler to dip plastic animals into the “mud” and walk them across paper.</p> <p>- Farm Animal Sensory Bin – Fill a shallow bin with grass, leaves and sticks. Place plastic farm animals in the bin and encourage your toddler to explore the materials.</p>	<p>- Tissue Paper Covered Pumpkins – Use a paintbrush to cover a small pumpkin with glue. Provide tissue paper in various shapes and sizes for your toddler to stick to the pumpkin.</p> <p>- Pumpkin Tower – Using small pumpkins (or boxes/blocks) encourage your toddler to stack the objects on top of each other. You can count as they stack. Encourage them to knock the tower over as they explore cause and effect.</p> <p>-Cause and Effect – Fill a small container with baking soda. Use a pumpkin that has been cut open for a more Halloween themed activity. Give your toddler a small cup of vinegar and encourage them to pour the vinegar into the container of baking soda. Describe what is happening as the foam begins to form.</p>	<p>-Math Concepts- Using math talk with your toddler can enrich simple everyday experiences. We use math every day without realizing it. Talking math with your toddler during routines can help lay a strong foundation for mathematical understanding, as they get older.</p> <p>During normal care routines such as diapering, feeding times, bath and doing things such as going on walks, take time to point out different shapes, colors, sizes, etc. Discuss how things are different as you are shopping. For example: “This apple is green, and this apple is yellow.” “This box is heavy; I wonder if the small box is lighter?”</p>
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<p>Fine Motor and Gross Motor</p>	<p>-Rolling Pumpkins- place a pumpkin on the ground and encourage your toddler to roll the pumpkin as they walk.</p> <p>- Taping Pumpkins – Place masking or washi tape pieces on a pumpkin. While supervising, encourage your toddler to peel the tape pieces off the pumpkin. (If you do not have a pumpkin, you can put tape on toys.</p>	<p>- Bubble Wrap Hop- Place bubble wrap on the floor and encourage your toddler to jump/walk/crawl over it. Describe the popping noises as the bubble wrap reacts to your toddler’s movements.</p> <p>-Sticker Art – With close supervision, provide your toddler with a sheet of stickers and paper. Encourage them to peel and stick the stickers on the paper.</p>	<p>-Animal Movements – Go on a walk outside and mimic animal movements. Encourage your toddler to run like a horse, hop like a bunny, waddle like a duck, etc.</p> <p>- Toy Animal Rescue – Use masking tape to tape toys to a flat surface. Encourage your toddler to use their fingers to peel the tape away and free the animals.-</p>	<p>- Sing “Monster, Monster Turn Around” action rhyme with your toddler. Encourage them to mirror your actions as you participate in the song. Words can be found online.</p> <p>- Golf Tee Pumpkin – Set up a station with a pumpkin, small wooden hammer or spoon and golf tees or sticks. Encourage your toddler to pound the golf tees into the pumpkin using the tools provided.</p>	<p>-Motor Skills- Your toddler should have opportunities to work on their motor skills every day. Motor skill development allows your child to be able to move independently, explore the world around them, promotes confidence and independence as well as meeting developmental milestones.</p> <p>Provide your toddler with opportunities to freely move in safe spaces. Pick up objects, explore a variety of materials with their hands and use tools for pick up and dumping materials.</p>
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Materials Needed

- Pumpkins in a variety of sizes
- Ziploc bags, cooking oil, food coloring (optional) and materials from nature
- Basket/bucket, toys, plastic farm animals
- Paint, paper and tape
- Playdough and cookie cutters
- Golf tees, stickers, and bubble wrap

*Substitute materials for things you have on hand if needed