

*A Free Digital Selection from Mighty Minutes™
for Infants, Toddlers & Twos*

 Teaching Strategies®



Mighty Minutes™



*for Infants, Toddlers
& Twos*

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Silly Animal Walk

02

Objective 4 Demonstrates traveling skills

Related Objectives: 1b, 2a, 5, 8a, 11a, 11b, 14b, 36

What You Do

1. During transitions between activities, invite children to copy you as you move like an animal. Use the following instructions as you demonstrate each movement.

Let's pretend to be puppies today.

Let's crawl around and pick up all the toys.

[Use for cleanup time.]

Let's pretend to be big hairy apes and walk to the door on all fours. *[Use for going outdoors.]*

Let's march like horses. *[Use for waiting in line.]*

2. Hold infants in your arms and point out other children's actions. "Do you see Marcus? He's pretending to be a cat."

- Change the animals and the movements over time, e.g., prowl like a cat, hop like a frog, sidle like a crab, stomp like a dinosaur, flap like a bird.
- Share an interesting fact about each animal as you imitate its movements.
- Invite children to choose the animal to imitate for the day.

Window Conversations

15

Objective 10
Uses appropriate conversational and other communication skills

a. Engages in conversations

Related Objectives: 2a, 2b, 7b, 9a, 9b, 11a, 11d, 12b, 14a, 27

What You Do

1. Invite a child to sit with you and look out of a window. Infants should be held snugly in your lap.
2. Talk about what you see using descriptive language, e.g., "Wow! That truck really zoomed by. It was going fast!"
3. Invite children to say what they see. Add new vocabulary to their descriptions. For children with limited verbal skills, expand on the sounds they make, e.g., "I heard you say *ba-ba-ba*. I see that big red ball outside. Is that what you see?"

- Mobile infants and above can sit in your lap or right next to you as you look out of the window together.
- Invite children to draw what they saw out of the window.

Where Is Teddy?

63

Objective 12 Remembers and connects experiences

a. Recognizes and recalls

Related Objectives: 2a, 8a, 11a, 11d, 12b, 14b, 15a, 23, 24, 26, 32

What You Do

1. Sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?"

Here is Teddy. Here is Teddy.
Here he is. Here he is.
Now the bear is hiding. Now the bear
is hiding.
Where can he be? Where can he be?
Come back Teddy. Come back Teddy.
Here he is. Here he is.
Hello Teddy. Hello Teddy.
Great big hug. Great big hug.

2. As you sing, hide and bring back the bear. Invite the child to greet and hug the bear when it returns.

- Invite toddlers and 2-year-olds to hide Teddy as you sing.
- Sing the song with a small group of 2-year-olds, giving each child the opportunity to hide Teddy somewhere in the classroom.
- Invite the child to play a hiding game using a stuffed bear.

Objective 23
Demonstrates knowledge of patterns

Related Objectives: 3a, 4, 5, 6, 11a, 12b, 14a, 21a, 35

What You Do

- 1. Invite children to complete a two-step action pattern with you, e.g., hands up, hands down; touch knees, touch head.**
Say, “Let’s use our bodies to make a pattern.”
Describe what you are doing. “Let’s reach up high. Now reach down low. Reach high again, and now low.”
- 2. Gently move young infants’ bodies for them as you describe what you are doing.**

- Invite 2-year-olds to create their own motion patterns.
- Increase the complexity of the movements as appropriate for your group. “Let’s jump up in the air and then clap our hands. Jump. Clap.”

Let's Explore!

98

Objective 24 Uses scientific inquiry skills

Related Objectives: 2a, 8a, 9a, 9b, 10a, 11a, 11d, 12b, 14a, 25, 33

What You Do

- 1. Invite children to explore a large interesting object with you. Describe the object using rich, descriptive language.**
“Look at this enormous brown cardboard box! It has bright red letters on the side.”
- 2. Using questions as prompts, encourage children who are verbal to offer their descriptions as well.** “What do you notice about the box? What does it feel like?”

- Encourage older 2-year-olds to make size, shape, and color comparisons.
- Create a photo book of the large interesting objects that you use. When you look at the book with children, use rich vocabulary to describe the objects.



About the

Mighty Minutes™



for Infants, Toddlers & Twos

Mighty Minutes is a collection of 100 short, playful activities that engage young children and support their development in all areas. Featuring interactive rhymes, songs, chants, and games, they can be used anytime and anywhere to support the routines and experiences happening in infants, toddlers, and twos programs. Each *Mighty Minute* focuses on an objective for development and learning found in *The Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers, & Twos*, making even your shortest activities meaningful and filled with warm interactions. Making the most of every minute has never been easier or more fun!

