



Division of Child Care

Pre-K 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Work on naming parts of the body -Talk about healthy foods versus non-healthy foods and how it can affect our teeth and our bodies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Salt Tray Letters – Use a baking sheet, or any flat, contained surface to help your child draw letters in the salt. You can put the letters under the salt to trace, or you can show your child the letters and have them form the letters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bubble Wrap Letters on the flat side of the bubble wrap, write a letter in each bubble (you will have to write backwards, so that the letters are facing the correct way when flipped over!) For a challenge, use upper and lower case, and various colors. Then, put the bubble wrap down so that the bubble side is up. Call out for your child to find different things (i.e.-‘Find the pink E, find the purple M’). -In a large Ziploc bag, use hair gel or aloe gel to fill the bag so when laid flat, it covers the bag evenly but not overflowing. Place different letters or numbers in bold print under the bag for your child to practice tracing the letters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Play pretend Farmer’s Market! Set up a “stand” with boxes, use real or pretend fruits and vegetables, and have children write signs. -Sort vegetables by the first letter of their name, and then work on putting them in alphabetical order. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Create a campfire collage (using items from your Scavenger Hunt, if you’d like!) or whatever materials you would like. Then, read <i>Pete the Cat Goes Camping</i> by James Dean and talk about different aspects of camping, fall, nature’s life cycles and leaves changing, etc.

<p>Math and Science</p>	<p>-Five Senses exploration – explore something new using your 5 senses. <i>Do not use something inedible if your child intends to taste.</i> This can include various foods, flowers, textures of blankets, etc. <i>Anything available in your home that is safe for children can be used.</i></p>	<p>-Use cups to create letters and numbers (plastic cups work best!) Your child will create the shape of the letter or number using the cups. Then, have your child count and compare how many cups it takes to form each letter or number.</p> <p>-Secret painting – Use white crayon on a piece of paper to write various letters, numbers, or words. Then, your child can use watercolor paint to “reveal” those letters, numbers and words.</p>	<p>-Use measuring cups to dump and pour during your Toy Washing Station. Compare the sizes of the cups.</p> <p>-Compare other things that are circular, like bubbles. You can also extend this to talk about other geometric shapes as well!</p>	<p>-Balance apples on tubes, cups, blocks, etc. to see what balances and what does not. Make predictions about which will work, and build structures to support the apples!</p> <p>-Order fruits and vegetables by size, from biggest to smallest. You can even weigh them if you have a scale!</p>	<p>-Dancing Corn Experiment- Start with a tall, clear glass jar. Add 2 cups of water. Add 2 Tbsp. of baking soda and mix until dissolved. You can also add a drop or two of food coloring if you would like. Add 1/8 to ¼ of a cup of popping kernels to the water mixture. Add small amounts of vinegar to the mixture, and watch the dancing corn! Talk about the chemical reactions, why the kernels move, etc. You can continue adding small amounts of vinegar to continue the “dancing corn”.</p>
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<p>Fine Motor and Gross Motor</p>	<p>-Use snacks to make different faces on a paper plate. (i.e. – blueberry eyes, cheerios in a smile, cucumbers for ears, etc.) Then, enjoy your snack!</p>	<p>-Lace beads or noodles onto string or pipe cleaners, if available, to practice counting. You can use dice to select random numbers. Put the number of beads or noodles onto the string based on what is rolled. Use multiple dice for higher numbers and some addition practice!</p> <p>-Write several letters and number on a piece of paper. Have your child use a Q Tip dabbed in paint to “dot” along the outline of the letter or number.</p>	<p>-Toy Washing Station use a tub (or the bathtub!) to create a washing station for your child. They can use sponges, brushes, and cloth to clean their toys with soap and water.</p> <p>-Attach bubble wrap to a paintbrush or utensil. Have your child dip it in paint and create different prints using the bubble wrap on the paper.</p> <p>-Play Twister! Or, use colored papers or items and call out for your child to either move to, or put different body parts on, like the game Twister.</p>	<p>-Paint, color, or draw pictures of your favorite fruits and vegetables. Draw what your favorite dinner plate might look like.</p> <p>-Color wheel – hang different colored paper around the room. Call out a color and an action on how your child needs to get there; i.e.: Orange Hop, Red Crawl, Purple Gallop</p>	<p>-Find leaves to paint or trace. You can also attach them to contact paper, if available, and make fall window art.</p> <p>-Go on a scavenger hunt! Make a list of things for your child to find that are available to you outside or in a nearby park. Have your child collect the items in a small bag.</p> <p>-Use corn on the cob to dip in paint and roll onto paper to create fun patterned art! You can also slice the corn into slices and make prints with the inside and kernels attached. Dissect the corn and create various patterns! You can</p>
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Materials Needed

*Substitute materials for things you have on hand if needed



Division of Child Care

Pre-K 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
Language and Reading	<p>-Pretend Play pumpkin patch.</p> <p>-Discuss the “life cycle” of a pumpkin. Read and/or listen to “From Seed to Pumpkin” by Wendy Pfifer.</p>	<p>-Read ‘Pete the Cat Firefighter Pete’ by James Dean (this is also read aloud on YouTube).</p> <p>-Have your child help develop a family fire plan. Where would you meet outside of your house? Whom would they call? Do they know 911? Make a poster board or hang the plan on paper in a place where it is visible to children. Practice crawling under smoke so children know how to safely evacuate.</p>	<p>-Imitate farm animal sounds! Name animals and have your child make their sound, then have them name one for you.</p> <p>-Discuss what foods we get from animals on the farm (meat and non-meat) and what crops are grown on the farm. Try to drive by an area where your child may see corn or other seasonal crops.</p>	<p>-Dress up in costumes, or other various pretend play outfits. You can dress up with items around the house and try to guess what the other person is dressed as.</p>	<p>-See if it is possible to visit a Fire Station.</p> <p>-Visit a Pumpkin Patch.</p> <p>-Visit a local farm or farmers market, if still available.</p>

<p>Math and Science</p>	<p>-Pumpkin Volcano: (You use the same pumpkins you have already cleaned out, if you would like!) Clean out the inside of a small (baking) pumpkin. This is best done as an outside activity, on a lid or in a large container. Add a couple tablespoons of baking soda to the pumpkin. Add a few squirts of dish soap, then a color or two, if you would like, to the inside of each pumpkin. Slowly pour vinegar into the pumpkin and watch the reaction!</p> <p>-When you carve them, use the seeds to practice counting. Have children</p>	<p>-Sort 'hot' and 'not hot' items. This may help children understand what is safe and what is dangerous, and what may prevent a fire from happening. You can use examples like food and beverages in your home, warm water and cold water in the bath tub, appliances, pots and pans when cooking, etc.</p>	<p>-If you have animal figurines, you can use them. If not, you can use pictures of various animals to sort them. You can sort which animals are farm animals, and which are not. Then, you can group the animals by size. If all animals appear the same size, work with your child to look at real life examples to gather an idea of size.</p> <p>-Go on a Scavenger Hunt for Fall items, like various colored leaves, acorns, pinecones, etc. Then, count and sort the objects based on color, size, type of item, etc.</p>	<p>-Discuss skeletons and bones. Research with your child on how to keep our bones healthy by eating healthy foods</p> <p>-Cause and effect art: Find a small round object: marble, rock, etc that will roll well. In a small cardboard or plastic box, place a sheet of paper and small drops of paint around the paper. Have your child lift and tilt the box to roll the object inside to create art using only the movement of the object.</p>	
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<p>Fine Motor and Gross Motor</p>	<p>-Pumpkin Baths: fill the bathtub or a large bin with soapy water. Let children use sponges to clean the pumpkins. (You can always make them messy prior to this activity, with washable paints, markers, mud, etc!)</p> <p>-Carve pumpkins and scoop out the seeds. This is a great sensory experience for young children! Have them pick out the seeds for you to bake together!</p>	<p>-Have children cut out basic shapes to make a fire truck. They will need 4 circles (wheels), a square (front of the truck), a large rectangle (body of the truck), and a smaller, thinner rectangle (for the ladder). They can paste this onto a paper to decorate. They can cut out a fire hose, dog, and firefighter, too!</p>	<p>-Play a movement game with your child: Call out an animal and its corresponding action for them to complete. Examples include: Roll in the mud like a pig, waddle like a duck, gallop like a horse, peck like a chicken, jump like a goat, etc.</p> <p>-Paper plate wreath: cut out the inner circle of a paper plate, leaving the outer circle. Scavenge for leaves to use and decorate the edge of the plate to create a wreath.</p>	<p>-Using the leaves you found last week on your scavenger hunt (or collect more!), dip to leaves in paint and make leaf prints.</p> <p>-Use a broom (or any long stick) to fly like a witch! This is probably a better outside activity!</p>	<p>-Use small scoops, spoons, or small toy tractors in a plastic or cardboard bin with corn kernels to scoop and pour for an easy sensory bin. You can add in animals, too!</p> <p>-DIY Moon Sand: 8 Cups of all purpose flour and 1-Cup baby oil. Have your child assist you with adding the 2 ingredients, and mixing. You may need a hand mixer to fully combine. Then, place into a box or bin for a fun “moon sand” experience! They can create structures, prints, play with other toys/cars in the sand, etc.</p>
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Materials Needed

Dish Soap, Vinegar, Baking Soda
Food coloring
Pumpkins
Carving tools/Scooping tools
Paper/Drawing tools/scissors-glue or glue stick
Animal Figures or pictures
Paper Plate
Bag for Scavenger Hunt
Paint
Broom
Flour/Baby oil/hand mixer

*Substitute materials for things you have on hand if needed