



THIS MONTH'S THEME **Baby STEM**

This month, your little one will be introduced to STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Math—through playful, age-appropriate activities designed to spark curiosity and support early development. While STEM may seem advanced, for babies it means exploring the world through sensory experiences, cause-and-effect play, simple problem-solving and early pattern recognition. These activities lay the foundation for critical thinking and a lifelong love of learning.

Sing and dance at home with theme-based music!



READ EVERY DAY

Establish a reading routine to bond with your child through stories. Reading to your baby can help establish a predictable daily routine while also promoting brain activity, early literacy skills and language development.

Try this: When reading with a child, say words and make sounds often. This keeps them interested and encourages them to try imitating you.

How:

- Talking while reading brings the story to life!
- Expand the child's vocabulary and language skills by pointing to and talking about the pictures on each page.
- Repeating questions and discussing the book promotes deeper thinking and understanding of the story.

Tip of the Month: Help your child follow along with the story by pointing to each word you read from left to right.

Play & Learn at Home

Encourage different types of play with objects you can find at home or in nature. Below are three activities you can try at home related to the same type of play.

Push & Pull

How does the child look for objects that disappear?

Young Infant

Place the child on their tummy and show them a sheep stick puppet. Move the puppet up and down, responding to the child's movements.

Older Infant

Make a hole in the bottom of the envelope and insert the puppet. Move the puppet down to hide inside, then make it pop out. Sit with the child and play peek-a-boo, asking "Where is the black sheep?" before making it reappear.

Young Toddler

Sit with the child and show them how the puppet can be inserted into an envelope. Encourage the child to handle it. Explore different ways to move the puppet up and down, saying "Hello!" and "Good-bye, black sheep." Repeat for the red and white sheep.

How does the child use their hands to investigate the environment?

Young Infant

Set out a few ice cubes in front of the child. Watch how they respond to cold textures.

Older Infant

Sit on the floor with the child and put a few ice cubes in front of them. Watch as they touch and explore the ice cubes. Demonstrate how to push the ice to make it move on the hard floor.

Young Toddler

While the child sits on a hard floor, put a few ice cubes in front of them. Make a masking tape circle on the floor. Watch how they explore the ice. Encourage them to push the cubes into the circle on the floor.

Did the child push an object and crawl after it?

Young Infant

Roll the toy car in front of the child. Set out two toy animals. Make car noises. Push the toy car from one animal to the other, making the car noise.

Older Infant

Set out four toy animals on the floor, one in each corner of the room. Sit with the child and push the car in the direction of one of the animals. Watch them crawl after it. Continue to push the car around the room.

Young Toddler

Place four toy animals on the floor and connect them with a tape path. Sit with the child and push the car in the direction of one of the animals. Follow the path and ask them to find a specific animal. Keep pushing the car around the room until they find it.

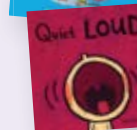
BOOKS & NURSERY RHYMES



Go, Dog, Go!
by P.D. Eastman



Curious George and the Rocket
by Margret Rey



Quiet LOUD
by Leslie Patricelli

BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP

Baa baa, black sheep, have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full.
One for my master, one for the dame,
and one for the little girl who lives down the lane.
Baa baa, white sheep, have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full.
One for my master, one for the dame,
and one for the little girl who lives down the lane.
Baa baa, red sheep, have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full.
One for my master, one for the dame,
and one for the little girl who lives down the lane.

Reminders and Upcoming Information

