

THIS MONTH'S THEME

## Bees & Butterflies

Your baby is in for a treat this month with the exciting theme of *Bees & Butterflies!* They will have the opportunity to explore and play in a stimulating environment that is designed to spark their curiosity and engage their senses. Watch how your little one learns and grows through hands-on activities, playful stories and songs. Get ready for a buzzing and fluttering adventure!



**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:** Keep books within reach in baskets or on low shelves so the child can independently choose their own book and explore it.

**How:**

- Encourage the child to hold the book and turn the pages.
- Encourage the child to flip to a page and make the sound of the animal or object on the page.
- When the child flips to a page, say the name of a color. Continue turning pages and naming colors.

**Tip of the Month:** Re-read books: Babies learn from repetition, so read the same books over and over.

## 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.

### Grab & Squeeze

**When do you notice the child tossing objects throughout the day? How do you encourage this action that builds muscle coordination?**

#### Young Infant

With the child on their back, drop a scarf from up high and name the body part it lands on. Repeat and observe how the child tracks the movements.

#### Older Infant

Make a circle on the floor with masking tape and invite the child to sit inside. Toss a scarf in the air and observe how the child explores the scarf and moves around inside the circle.

#### Young Toddler

Make a masking tape circle and triangle on the floor. Name a body part and invite the child to walk the circle path and pick up scarves, toss them in the air and try to catch on the named body part. Repeat with the triangle.

**How does the child move in response to music?**

#### Young Infant

While the child is on their back, help them find their toes and hold them as the music plays. Rock the child from side to side.

#### Older Infant

Sit across from the child on the floor. Play the song and hold the child's hands, pulling gently back and forth. Stop and clap with the song, then rock again.

#### Young Toddler

Invite the child to dance to the music and crawl like a caterpillar under the "tunnel of leaves," green streamers taped under a table.

**Does the child track the moving object with their eyes, then reach to grab it?**

#### Young Infant

Play the song and wave a scarf just above the child while they lie on their back. Observe how the child works to grasp it.

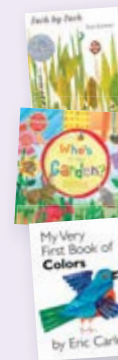
#### Older Infant

Put scarves in an empty tissue box. Play the song and gently wave a scarf. Observe how the child reaches for the moving scarf or pulls additional scarves out of the box.

#### Young Toddler

Set out two empty tissue boxes and put all of the scarves in one box. Encourage the child to pull out a bee (scarf) and carry it to the hive (the other tissue box) while the song plays.

## BOOKS & NURSERY RHYMES



**Inch by Inch**  
by Leo Lionni

**Who's in the Garden?**  
by Phillis Gershator

**My Very First Book of Colors**  
by Eric Carle

### WHERE ARE ALL THE BEES?

Here is the beehive,  
But where are all the bees?  
Hiding away where no one sees.  
Here they come  
A-creeping  
Out of the hive,  
1-2-3-4-5!  
Buzzzzzzzzzzzz!

# Reminders and Upcoming Information

