

Activity pack: Preschool Department

Ideas for home learning



Activity one

Elmer Milk bottles

Make an Elmer the elephant using a milk jug and coloured tissue paper squares! A great craft for children to go along with a much-loved story book which can be used as a story prop or puppet too.



Things you need:

- 1 (or more) empty and clean milk jug containers
- Scissors
- brightly coloured tissue paper cut into equal size and shape squares
- PVA/ white glue and brushes
- white card
- black pen



Stand the milk jug up and cut into it just below the handle. This will form the elephant's trunk. Then cut off the entire bottom half of the jug and cut four legs into it, as well as a little tail. Now its time to glue and stick!

Where some of the colours overlapped the colours occasionally blend into each other, but this looks lovely. Once it is covered, then add another wash of glue over the top to make it dry hard and shiny. Once its dry add ears and eyes.

EYFS Links:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Making relationships

- Demonstrates friendly behaviour, initiating conversations and forming good relationships with peers and familiar adults.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Self-confidence and self-awareness

- Shows confidence in asking adults for help

Communication and Language: Listening and attention

- Is able to follow directions (if not intently focused on own choice of activity).

Literacy: Reading

- Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.
- Describes main story settings, events and principal characters.

Activity two

How to make your own playdough

You will need:

- 2 cups plain flour (all purpose),
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- ½ cup salt
- up to 1.5 cups boiling water (adding bit by bit until it feels just right)
- food colouring (optional – this really can get messy!).



You might also want to use some household items like child-friendly cookie cutters and rolling pins to make shapes with the playdough.

What to do:

1. Mix the flour, salt and oil in a large bowl. If you're using food colouring, add it to the boiling water then pour into the flour mixture.
2. Stir until it forms a sticky dough.
3. Allow it to cool down then take out of the bowl and knead it for a couple of minutes until all of the stickiness has gone.
4. Keep kneading until it's the perfect consistency! If it's still sticky add a little more flour until just right.

Our preschool children love our homemade playdough! This kind of activity promotes their imagination as well as their creativity. You could even add a scent such as vanilla or cinnamon.

EYFS Links:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development: Making relationships

- Demonstrates friendly behaviour, initiating conversations and forming good relationships with peers and familiar adults.

Mathematics: Shape, space and measure

- Uses shapes appropriately for tasks.
- Shows an interest in shape and space by playing with shapes or making arrangements with objects.

Expressive arts and design: Exploring and using media and materials

- Realises tools can be used for a purpose.

- Beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things.