

Activities I Can Do at Home with My Toddler for



Learning Themes:
4th of July/Ocean fun/Sports
Holiday: July 4th

Learning Concepts:
Big motor play, ocean/outdoor fun, traditions (4th of July),
Stamping, and Lacing

These are not date specific, so you can pick whatever works for your family. You may want to try them all or pick a few favorites to do more than once. The idea is to have fun.

1. Song: Animals in the Ocean: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-xqosckJ5c&list=RD6-xqosckJ5c&start_radio=1
2. Book: Little Giraffe at the Beach: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7iQjsiRSBaA&t=56s>
3. Sensory Play: Water: Add: Shells, Rocks, Plastic Sea Creatures, Boat, plastic fish, Sand dollar, Shovel, Spoon, Small container, or cup to scoop water in and dump out. The second week: add things that sink and things that float.
4. Fine Motor: Paint with Water: Paint on the sidewalk outside or the outside of your house
5. Snack: Sailboat: Cut an apple into slices. Poke a pretzel in the apple. Next, cut a piece of cheese into a triangle and put it on the pretzel to make a sail.
6. Gross Motor: Throw rocks into the water
7. Pack a picnic lunch and eat outside
8. Song: Baby Shark: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqZsoesa55w&list=RD6-xqosckJ5c&index=2>
9. Story: Hello Beach: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfOcYXJRUP8>
10. Art: Rainbow Fish: Cut out a fish on paper, a paper plate, or cardboard. Have them paint it with an uncooked noodle, a piece of celery, a cork, or whatever else you can think of to use to dot dot on the fish. Be creative. How to make paint see below
11. Snack: Put gummy fish or sharks in a cup. Make jello and pour in the cup with the fish. Let set and eat.
12. Pack a bag as if you are going to the beach; take it outside or go to the beach
13. Sensory: Sand: Put sand in a bin. Add: rocks, shells, scoops, spoons, bucket, variety of small containers, sand toys. The second week add water to your sand and have them mix it up. Make sand sculptures.
14. Song: All the Fish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vnt1CeKcfs>
15. Fine Motor: Squirt with a Spray bottle: Fill a spray bottle with water and let them squirt things.
16. Carry a Bucket Full of Rocks, water, or sand
17. Snack: Quesadilla jellyfish: Make a quesadilla, cut it in half, and put it on a plate. Add Shredded cheese to the plate, so it looks like the feelers.
18. Pretend Play Bin: Sunglasses, Umbrella, Beach Chair, Beach Bag, Towel, Hat, Bucket, Shovel, Beach ball, Kiddie pool, or a big container with water to sit inside of or splash.
19. Sort items into two or more bowls: Rocks, shells
20. Color or Paint: Turtle: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/383228249547685697/>
Beachball: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/383228249547685665/>
Beach Scene: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/383228249547685673/>
Fish: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/383228249547685709/>
21. Baggie or Bottle Sensory Play: See below for directions
22. Gross Motor: Throw or Kick a Beach Ball

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23. Snack: Beach scene: Layer pudding, crushed graham crackers, pudding, crushed graham crackers. Stand teddy graham bears in the sand or lay them on the beach.
24. Sing the Fish in the Ocean Song: (See below)
25. Art: Bottle Bottom Turtles: See attachment for details
26. Gross Motor: Run through the sprinkler or wade in a pool of water
27. Snack: String cheese octopus or hotdog octopus. Cut 4 or 5 strips from the bottom halfway up, the cheese or hotdog. Push down strips you cut it will look like an octopus
28. Fine Motor: Pool Noodle Ring Stacker: Cut up a pool noodle into 2-inch rings. Have them hold a paper towel roll horizontally and put noodles on. Have them hold a paper towel roll vertically and put noodles on.
29. Read a book about fish, the beach or summertime.
30. Dance to the music: Down By the Deep Blue Sea:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pMEQsk3c5Y&list=RD6-xqosckJ5c&index=5>

Vocabulary:

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Red | Shark | Turtle | Rock | Squirt | Swimming |
| Yellow | Bubble | Beach Ball | Towel | Wet | Heavy |
| Blue | Shell | Sunglasses | Shovel | Scoop | Drip Drip |
| Crab | Boat | Bucket | Dump | Dry | Light |
| Fish | Sand | Water | Hat | Pop | |

Baggie or Bottle Sensory Play:

1. Fill a small or medium-sized resealable plastic bag less than halfway with hand sanitizer or hair gel.
2. Add some blue food gel. If you don't have any, you can substitute drops of food coloring.
3. Sprinkle in some blue glitter.
4. Add sea life items if you have any: stars, plastic or foam sea creatures, small rocks, small shells. If not, it is water and they can make waves.
5. Seal.
6. Squish to combine and especially to mix the color thoroughly.
7. Open the bag again to remove any excess air and seal again.
8. You can fold duct tape over all four edges of the bag to secure it tightly if you want.
9. Hand the bag to your child to play with or make another bag for yourself to play too.



**beach and sea
squish BAGS**



Sensory Bottle: Put sand in a water bottle, add shells and rocks, put lid on and have kids shake to see what they can find hidden in the sand. (Hot glue lid if you don't want them to open.)



Bottle Bottom Turtles

Just need a turtle shape and the bottom of a 2-liter bottle! (for a big turtle) or you can use smaller bottles for smaller turtles. Make it fun and let the kids decorate their turtles with glitter and stickers too!!

