



## Let's Get Started!

### Outside Play



#### Rainbow Scavenger Hunt

Take your child around your yard or neighborhood and look for items that are the color of the rainbow. From a red stop sign, to a yellow leaf, to a purple flower, spotting items and learning color names can be a fun activity for you both. With younger toddlers, carry them to each item and let them explore its color and texture before moving on.

#### The Coolest Play Boats

Ice cubes are a great way to stay cool on a hot summer day. And the colorful ice boats at [Busy Toddler](#) use food coloring to keep kids delighted and spark their imagination.

These boats require some parent prep ahead of time, which you can do with your little ones watching or helping. Let loose the boats in an outdoor water table, bucket, or inflatable backyard pool. Kids can move them across the water and watch the colored cubes melt.

#### Mess-Free Painting

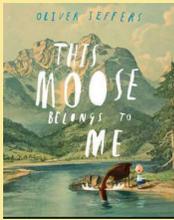
- \* Giving toddlers a paintbrush can mean a big, old mess – unless you let them paint with water. On a sunny day, hand your child a paintbrush and a small cup of water and let them paint the steps, driveway, or a fence. You will be surprised at how much kids love this simple task.
- \* Put shaving cream into a squirt bottle and mix in some food coloring, then let your child squeeze it onto contact paper and explore with their fingers. This activity is great for little ones learning to sit and crawlers who will not go slip-sliding anywhere too fast. Just keep a close eye on them so they do not try to taste the foam or smear it on their clothes.
- \* Add paint to syringes – a fun alternative to the normal way of painting for toddlers. Great outside activity.



Please see below for some additional activities that you could try with your child.



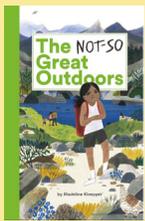
## Books



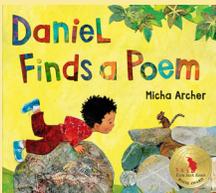
*This Moose Belongs to Me*  
by Oliver Jeffers



*Run Wild*  
by David Covell



*The Not-So Great Outdoors*  
by Madeline Kloepper



*Daniel Finds a Poem*  
by Micha Archer

## Ring Toss Game

Make your own ring toss game. Take five paper plates, cut a hole in the middle, and decorate them your favorite color. You may want to put two paper plates together to make the ring stronger (you will need 10 paper plates in this case). Collect clean liter bottles. Fill with water to give them some weight. Line up the bottles 5 feet in front of the line. Children take turns tossing the rings (paper plates) while trying to 'ring' a bottle.

## Do Story Time Outside

Spread out a blanket under a shady tree and crack open a few of your child's favorite books. There is nothing like reading a story outside with the breeze in your hair. Try looking for books that take place in nature, so you can point out the trees and grass in the story as well as around you.



\*Activities should be done under the supervision of an adult or older sibling.

