



LEARNING TREE THERAPY NEWSLETTER



Make the most of summer vacation with these fun activities that encourage sensory exploration and work on fine-motor skills!

OCEAN SLIME

Materials:

- Medium sized bowl
- 1 bottle clear glue (5 oz.)
- Utensil or popsicle stick
- Baking soda
- Saline solution
- Blue food coloring
- Pink glitter
- Small plastic ocean animals (optional)

Directions:

1. Pour glue into bowl.
 2. Add small amounts of blue food coloring to bowl at a time.
 3. Mix until desired color is achieved.
 4. Add small amounts of glitter to bowl at a time (suggested amount is approx. 1 tsp) and mix.
 5. Add 1/4 tsp of baking soda and mix.
 6. Add squirts of saline solution and mix well. (**Note:** You do not want the slime to be too sticky - add solution until the mixture no longer sticks to hands.)
 7. Knead slime once desired consistency is achieved.
- **Optional:** Add small, plastic ocean animals and have your child find them in the "ocean" or have them "swim"!



Source: <https://www.allthingsmamma.com/how-to-make-ocean-slime/>

Try this yummy (and nutritious) food prep activity to introduce novel foods to picky eaters!



FROZEN FRUIT KEBABS

- Gather some of your kiddo's favorite fruits (and one new fruit) and get them involved in creating these fun, frozen treats!
- After washing and peeling/coring your fruits, slice them into thin pieces (approx. 1/2 inch); if your child is old enough, you can have them slice.
- Have your child pierce the fruit pieces on a popsicle stick, getting them involved in choosing the sequence/pattern for each kebab. (Make a rocket ship, or little fruit people!)
- Place kebabs on a baking sheet, over a pan or plate, and freeze for 2-3 hours for a delicious popsicle alternative!



Let's show some love and appreciation to our father figures with these thoughtful crafts! This year, Father's Day falls on Sunday, June 20th!

BOW-TIE CARD

Materials:

- Colored card stock (8.5 x 11 inches)
- Scissors
- Strong glue
- Buttons
- Bow-tie pasta (uncooked)
- Acrylic paint and small paintbrush (optional)

Directions:

1. Fold card stock in half length-wise and cut.
2. Take one piece and fold in half.
3. With card stock folded, make one cut (on folded side) about 1.5 inches below the top of the card
4. Repeat step on non-folded side, leaving about 2 inches of space un-cut in the center.
5. Open the card and cut the strip off of the back of the card.
6. To make the collar on the front, fold the two cut edges towards the center of the card and glue to adhere.
7. Glue 3 buttons in a vertical line on the front of the card, below the collar.
8. Glue 1 bow-tie noodle in the center of the collar. (**Optional:** Paint the bow-tie a fun color using acrylic paint!)
9. Write a sweet message inside the card!



Source: <https://www.thebestideasforkids.com/fathers-day-shirt-card/>



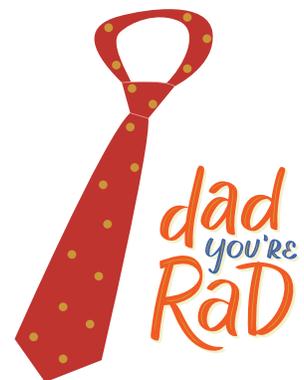
PAPER ROLL DAD

Materials:

- Paper roll
- Craft paint
- Googly eyes
- Colored craft paper
- Buttons
- Scissors
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Black marker

Directions:

1. Start by painting the paper roll. Paint hair, face and shirt (similar to dad).
2. Wait for the paint to dry then glue on the googly eyes.
3. Add a tie, bow tie or mustache made from paper and/or a couple of buttons.
4. Use a black marker to draw a smile.



Source: <https://nontoygifts.com/paper-roll-fathers-day-craft/>



One Fish Two Fish

This is a great activity to pair when you read One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss with your little one!

Supplies you'll need:

- scissors
- card stock
- paint (various colors)
- paintbrushes
- glitter
- googly eyes

Directions:

- Start by drawing out fish on card stock
- Cut out fish
- Set up some paint and glitter in different containers
- Paint away!
- Add some glitter
- Place googly eyes on fish (using paint as glue)



Outdoor Chalk Fun!

Supplies:

- Sidewalk Chalk

Directions:

- Write action words like "twirl", "jump", and "hop" on sidewalk
- Draw shapes to accompany these action words
- Have your child repeat the word as they act it out
- Let the good times roll!



Speech Strategy: Pausing

About this Strategy:

- When you have said something to your child, or you are holding a toy and waiting to play, pause in anticipation to give your child time to listen, understand what was asked, and to respond. For example: You say, “What would you like to play?”, give your child time to respond before you say something else.
- Show them you are waiting by looking expectantly for a reply.
- If your child does not respond, you can say the words that match the activity.

For example: You say, “Ball or Bubbles?”



Why This Helps:

Pausing gives your child time to express themselves and continue the conversation/interaction in some way. If your child is using words, pausing gives your child time to think about what they want to say and to respond. It gives your child an opportunity to go at their own pace and encourages them to take a turn without rushing.

Activity Ideas:

Bubbles: Before blowing the bubbles, hold the wand up to your mouth and wait... your child is likely to communicate in some way that they want you to blow the bubbles. You can say, "blow", "go", or "bubbles".

Contact Us!

Garden Grove:

(657) 263-4836

12419 Lewis St #102

Garden Grove, CA

92840

Harbor City:

(424) 250-9615

24328 S. Vermont Ave., #318

Harbor City, CA 90710

Long Beach:

(562) 317-5030

3777 Long Beach Blvd #400 & #480

Long Beach, CA 90807

Stay Connected on Social Media



@learningtreetherapy