

Creative Movement for Older Babies and Toddlers: BODY PARTS

- Visual/
Spatial: Crafty! Using a large piece of paper or newsprint, trace your child's body. Let your child enjoy decorating her face, hands and feet. IT might be fun for your child to trace around a doll or stuffed animal, or around you!
- Kinesthetic: Crafty! Use a few* drops of food coloring in liquid soap (or baby shampoo) that's been thinned with water, and place in a clean squeeze bottle. Presto: your own homemade tub paint! Let your child go nuts in the tub, painting all her body parts. (*Remember: a little goes a long way. Think tub *tints*, not super-saturated color, or your toddler will end up looking like an oompa-loompa!)
- Linguistic/
aural: Story rhyme!
Little Miss Muffet (*sitting*)
Sat on her tuffet (*rock side to side*)
Eating her curds and whey (*mime eating*)
When along came a SPIDER (*hand coming down*)
Who sat down beside her (*hand rests on shoulder*)
And frightened Miss Muffet away! (*jump up and run in a circle*)
- Logical/
math: Crafty! With a paper plate, hole punch and yarn, make a mask with our child to wear. Maybe you could create some special facial features from construction paper to glue onto the plate. Could you do the same making animal faces?
- Spiritual/
nature: Notice if the dogs and cats you might see, or if animals at the zoo or in picture books have body parts that make them special and unique. How might you move if you had a tail? A pouch? Tusks? A trunk? Hooves? Animals are so cool!
- Musical: Song! Here's a silly one...
Loopdi Loo
Here we go loopdi loo,
Here we go loopdi lei,
Here we go loopdi loo,
All on a Saturday night.
- I put my right hand in
I take my right hand out
I give my right hand a shake
And turn myself about (*repeat using other body parts*)
- Emotional: Crafty! Using construction paper, tape, scissors and a stapler if you have one, make lovely crowns to decorate for a fabulous tea party. Why not make bracelets or anklets using the same idea? Wear your art and make believe anything you want...
- Practical life: What's something we do every day that uses our hands? Washing dishes. Ugh! But it can be fun for your little one to try. Just set him up with a small basin of non-toxic sudsy water and a few cups or saucers. (You can use plastic ones if you want.) Don't forget a towel for drying! This is a fine kitchen floor activity, maybe right before bath, so it's not a problem if your kiddo gets wet. He'll be happy to help you and feel like a big guy!

Don't forget: We're online! Check out www.sparkplugdance.org for more fun ideas and class updates!