



# Red & Yellow Apples

WTG At Home, Fall Quarter Weeks 3 & 4

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\*Materials listed in purple will be provided at September 11th Art Pickup\*

## Art Activity: Apple Prints

**Materials:** 1 apple, 2 craft sticks, paint (ideally red & yellow, but any color will work), paper

**Directions:** Slice apple in half (from stem to bottom). Insert a craft stick into the round side of each apple half. Use a craft stick as a handle to dip the apple into paint and print on paper.

**Extensions:** For older toddlers, ask them to print apples in a pattern on the paper

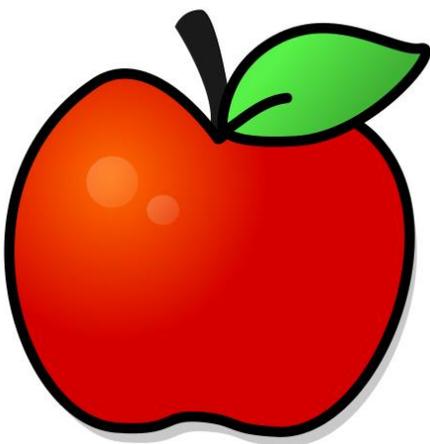


## Art Activity: Apple Collages

**Materials:** Apple die-cut shapes, stickers, shredded paper (red, yellow, and green), tissue squares, glue stick

**Directions:** Use the collage materials to decorate your apple shapes.

**Alternative:** Use crayons or markers to decorate your shapes instead.



## Fine Motor: Apple Hedgehogs

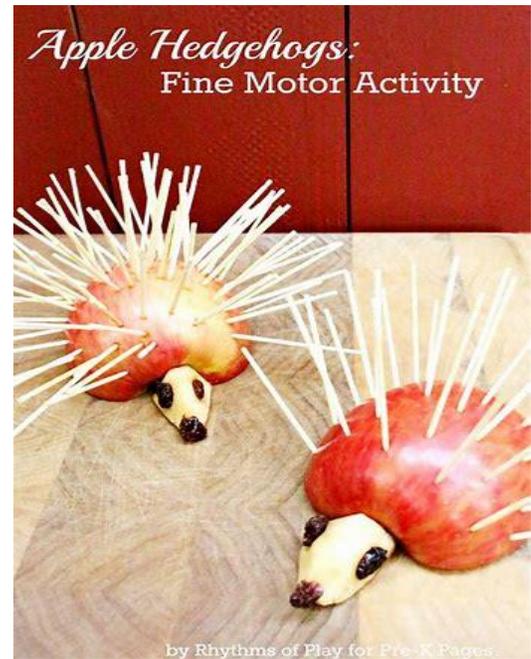
**Materials:** Apple, toothpicks

**Directions:** Cut an apple in half. Lay the flat side down and have toddler poke toothpicks into the apple.

**Alternatives:** Golf tees are a good alternative to toothpicks and might be easier for younger toddlers to hold. Dried spaghetti (broken in half) works as well.

If pushing the toothpicks into an apple is too challenging, use playdough instead.

**Extension:** Challenge your child to thread Cheerios (or other “O” shaped cereal) on to the toothpicks/spaghetti. How many Cheerios will fit on one?



## Fine Motor: Apple Puzzles

**Materials:** Apple pictures, scissors

**Directions:** Cut them into 2-4 pieces. The fewer the pieces, the easier it will be for little ones to put them together. Once they are cut apart, help your toddler put the puzzles together.

**Extensions:** More pieces will make the puzzle more challenging. You can also cut the pieces into “jigsaw”-style pieces to increase the difficulty.

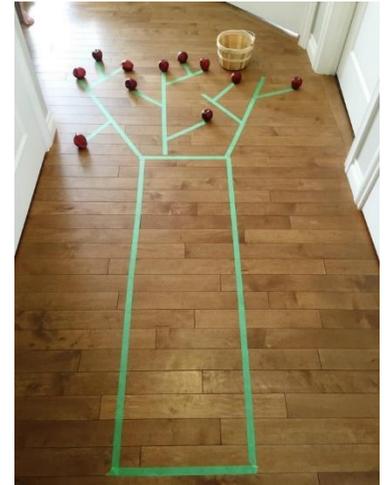


# Imaginative Play and Gross Motor: Indoor Apple Picking

**Materials:** Painters tape, apples, and a basket or bucket to carry apples

**Directions:** Use painter's tape to lay out an "apple tree" on the floor. Choose a room that has space for movement. At the end of each branch place an apple. Invite your child to pick all of the apples off of the tree and put them in his or her basket.

**Extensions:** Give your child specific movements to do as they pick their apples. Ask them to jump, hop, skip, walk backwards etc. Use the branches as a balance beam and challenge them to walk heel to toe out on each branch to pick the apples. Then challenge your child to jump from branch to branch. For older toddlers, ask them to count the apples as they pick them. Use different colored apples and ask your toddler to sort the apples by color once they have been picked.



## Sensory Bin: Washing Apples



**Materials:** Plastic tub, water, apples, and washing materials (scrubbies, wash cloths, scrub brush, etc)

**Directions:** Fill a small plastic tub (or other small container) with water. Add apples and washing materials and ask your child to wash the apples.

**Extensions:** Add tongs for older toddlers and see if they can pick up the apples. Add measuring cups, small cups, a small pitcher, and/or funnels and help them practice pouring water.

## Sensory Bin: “Apple Pie”

**Materials:** Apples, dry oatmeal, cinnamon sticks, small pot, small pie pan, whisk, spoon, colander, measuring cups, etc.

**Directions:** Fill a small plastic tub (or other container) with dry oatmeal. Add other materials and allow your child to explore.



## Science: Make Applesauce

**Materials:** Slow cooker, 4 lbs. (about 12 cups) of tart apples, ½ cup sugar, ½ tsp cinnamon, 1 cup water, 1 Tbsp lemon juice

**Directions:** Cut apples into chunks. Mix with cinnamon and sugar and put in a slow cooker. Pour water and lemon juice over apples. Cook on low for 6 hours or high for 3 hours.

## Science: Dried Apple Slices

**Materials:** 1 (or more) apple (firm apples work best), baking sheet, parchment paper, cooling rack

**Directions:** Preheat the oven to 200 and line the baking sheet with parchment paper. Slice your apple(s) crosswise into thin slices—about 1/8” thick.



Place the apple slices on the baking sheet and bake in the oven for 45-60 minutes. Make sure to check them every few minutes beginning at the 45-minute mark. Remove from the oven and allow to cool for 5-10 minutes on a baking sheet. Carefully peel slices from parchment paper and allow them to dry fully on the cooling rack (this may take a few hours). Store in an airtight container for up to a week.

Allow your toddler to peek in the window on the oven (with supervision) throughout the process and talk about what is happening. When the apple slices are fully dried, compare them to a regular apple. What differences do you see? How do they taste?

**Extension Ideas:** If you made applesauce, do a taste test with applesauce, dried apples, and a fresh apple. Which do you like better?

## **Songs:**

[The More We Get Together](#) (WTG's Welcome Song at beginning of circle time)

[Way Up High in the Apple Tree](#)

[Apple Tree Song](#)

[On the Farmer's Apple Tree](#)

[Apple Tree: Kid's Yoga, Music, and Movement](#)

## **Read Alouds:**

[Pat the Bunny at the Apple Orchard, a Golden Book](#)

[Apple Farmer Annie, by Monica Wellington](#)

[The Apple Pie Tree, by Zoe Hall](#)

[Apples and Pumpkins, by Anne Rockwell](#)