



Love & Hearts

WTG At Home, Winter Quarter Weeks 9 & 10

Materials listed in purple will be provided at January 21st Art Pickup

Art Activity: Heart Shaped Sticky Art

Materials: Heart-shaped paper frame, contact paper, small items to decorate

Directions: Stick the paper frame on to the sticky side of the contact paper. Add items to contact paper to decorate.



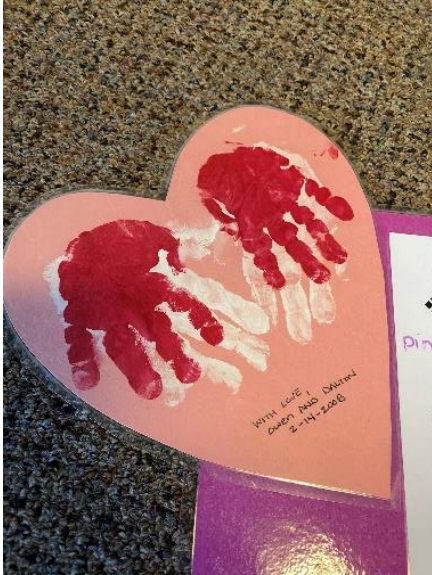
Art Activity: Symmetrical Heart Art



Materials: Heart-shaped construction paper (x2), paint, paint brush, plastic spoon or fork

Directions: Fold the construction paper in half down the center of the heart. Open it up, then use a paint brush or plastic spoon or fork to drip small blobs of paint on one side of the heart. Fold it again and use your hands to press the two sides of the heart together. Open it up and see what kind of symmetrical design you made!

Valentine Keepsake: Handprint Hearts



Materials: Heart shaped paper with “fancy” edge, paint or stamp pads

Directions: Paint your child’s hands with white paint and print on heart shape with fingers pointing down toward the point of the heart. Write “with love, from (child’s name) and the date. Give the Valentine to someone special! If you have multiple children, you can print each of their hands on top of each other. Make sure to use different colors (white as the first color works well), allow paint to dry between kids, and have the child with the biggest hands print first.

Fine Motor & Science: Conversation Heart Sorting

Materials: Conversation Hearts, cupcake wrappers or other containers, kid-friendly tongs (optional)

Directions: Spread the conversation hearts out on a table. Ask your child to sort them into containers by color. Cupcake wrappers work well for this, but really anything works. If you don’t have any containers, draw large circles on a piece of paper for your child to separate the hearts.

Adaptations: Younger children may want to just fill the containers with hearts without sorting.

Extensions: Have your toddler use tongs to pick up the hearts instead of their fingers. Ask them to put a certain number of hearts in the containers. For example, “3 pink hearts”, “5 white hearts”, etc. After sorting hearts by color, ask them to make a pattern with colored hearts. Show them a pattern to copy, then see if they can make their own.



Fine Motor: Cups and Straws

Materials: Plastic cup with lid, straws

Directions: Cut each of the straws in to 2-3 pieces. Give them to your toddler and show them how to stick the straw through the straw hole to get the straw in the cup. Once they have all the straws in the cup, dump them out and try again.

Adaptations: Take the lid off to make it easier to get the straws inside the cup. You can also tape the cup to the table with clear packing tape to help hold it in place.

Extensions: Help your child count the straws as they put them in the cup. Older toddlers can predict how many they think will fit. Ask your child to put a certain number in the cup—i.e. “put 3 straws in”.



Imaginative Play: Bakery

Materials: Cookie sheets, baking tools, mixing bowls, other cooking toys

Directions: Set up your own pretend bakery and “bake” Valentine's treats for friends and family.

Extensions: Do some actual baking! Sugar cookies are fun and easy for littles—especially if you buy the pre-made dough. Just slice and bake! Consider making care packages to deliver to special friends and family.

Imaginative Play: Special Delivery

Materials: Paper, crayons, markers, box for a pretend mailbox (or a real one), bag for the “mail carrier” to carry the “mail”, envelopes

Directions: Give your toddler the paper, crayons, markers, etc. so they can “write” letters. Fold the letters, put them in the envelopes, and mail them in the “mailbox.” Retrieve the “letters” from the mailbox and place them in the “mail bag”. Your toddler can then pretend to be the mail carrier and “deliver” the mail.

Extensions: Help your toddler write real letters to friends and family. They can draw a picture and dictate words for you to write. Let them help you put the stamps on their letters and put them in the mailbox.



Gross Motor: Craft Heart Hunt



Materials: **Craft Hearts**

Directions: Hide hearts throughout your house and ask your child to find them! Once they find a heart, they give them a physical challenge to complete. For example, jump 5 times, run to their room and back, crawl like a cat, etc.

Extensions: Label the hearts with shapes or numbers. Ask your child to identify the shape or number on each heart as they find them.

Sensory Bin: Quinoa

Materials: Uncooked quinoa, sensory bin items such as funnels, scoops, shovels, etc.

Directions: Fill your sensory bin with uncooked quinoa. Add funnels, scoops, shovels, etc. You can also add small red items to the bin for them to discover.



Sensory Bin: Pink Ooblek!



Materials: Cornstarch, water, red food coloring

Directions: Mix water with red food coloring and add it to cornstarch to make goop.

Science: Coloring a Carnation

Materials: One or two **WHITE** carnations, food coloring, water

Directions: Color water in a cup, jar, or small vase with food coloring. Red will go with the Valentine theme, but any darker color will work. Place the carnation in the colored water. Observe the carnation over the next few days. As the carnation “drinks” the water, the petals will change color. The shorter the stem, the quicker the change so it’s best to cut off some of the stem.



Extensions: Before you begin, ask your child to predict what will happen. How long do you think it will take? Record their predictions on paper, then check to see if they were correct.

Songs and Finger Plays:

[Skinnamarink-a-dink by Sharon, Lois, & Bram](#)

[Toe-Knee Chestnut](#)

[Five Little Hearts](#)

[I Put My Hands Together](#)

Read Alouds:

[Happy Valentine's Day Mouse, by Laura Numeroff](#)

[Biscuit's Valentine's Day, by Alyssa Capucilli](#)

[I Love You Too, by Ziggy Marley](#)

[I Love You Stinky Face, by Lisa McCourt](#)

[How Do Dinosaurs Stay Friends?, by Jane Yolen](#)