

## THIS MONTH'S THEME

# Colors & Shapes

Bring a vivid world to life through *Colors & Shapes*! Every color sparks curiosity and creativity, from sunny yellow stars to red rectangle shapes. Create a fun treasure hunt with everyday objects, sing silly songs about colors and watch your tiny artist flourish through play. Let's make every day a vibrant celebration of learning and discovery!



**Sing and dance at home with theme-based music!**



## Play & Learn at Home

Encourage different types of play with objects you can find at home or in nature. Below are three activities you can try at home related to the same type of play.



### Stack & Nest

**How does the child approach an activity: cautiously or with enthusiasm?**

#### Young Infant

Stack three cups within reach. Watch as they reach for the cups. Knock them over and say, "Uh-oh!" Stack them again.

#### Older Infant

Sit across from the child and stack cups. Encourage them to knock over the tower or remove a cup. Exclaim, "You did it!" each time the tower tumbles. Hand your child a cup to help build the tower again.

#### Young Toddler

Put the cups all over the floor. Encourage your child to help you gather them and build a tower. Explore different ways to stack and play. Describe how the child builds or plays with the cups (e.g., "You stacked the tower 4 cups high!").

**How does the child show interest and curiosity?**

#### Young Infant

Lay the child on their tummy and play peek-a-boo with a ball. Hide the ball under a bowl and ask, "Where is the ball?" Pick up the bowl to reveal it. Roll the ball down the child's leg.

#### Older Infant

Sit next to the child and hide a ball under one of three bowls. Encourage them to pick up one bowl at a time to look for the ball. Watch as the child looks to you for assurance to keep looking. Clap when the ball is found.

#### Young Toddler

Pretend the ball is saying, "Help!" Roll it away from you and walk after it. Encourage the child to help you catch the ball, then comfort it. Continue rolling the balls for them to chase. How do they comfort the ball?

**What objects does the child like to bang or try to fit together?**

#### Young Infant

Stack a few blocks near the child. Watch as they reach for and knock them down. Share what you notice about their actions: "I see you reach for the blue block. You knocked it down! Let's build it again."

#### Older Infant

Stack the blocks. Give one to the child and invite them to help you stack them. Share what you notice about their actions: "I see you have the blue block. You are putting it on top. You knocked down the blocks. Let's build it again."

#### Young Toddler

Stack the blocks. Give one to the child and invite them to help you. Share what you notice about their actions: "I see you have the blue block. You are putting it on top." Ask them to complete simple tasks, like, "Can you stack blocks by my foot?"

## READ EVERY DAY

**Establish a reading routine** to bond with your child through stories. Reading to your baby can help establish a predictable daily routine while also promoting brain activity, early literacy skills and language development.

**Try this:** Expand vocabulary by identifying objects in pictures and pointing to them. Find similar objects and pictures throughout the day.

### How:

- Name the pictures on the page and encourage your child to point to them.
- Engage in a role-playing activity and act out the story by clapping, mimicking sounds and waving.
- Hunt for and point out different food items on each page.
- Have fun asking easy "where" questions to engage your little one. For example, "Where is the apple? There it is!"

**Tip of the Month:** Incorporate their favorite toy: If your baby has a favorite blanket or toy, include it in your reading.

## BOOKS & NURSERY RHYMES



**My Very First Book of Colors**  
by Eric Carle

**A Color of His Own**  
by Leo Lionni

**Mouse Shapes**  
by Ellen Stoll Walsh

### COLORS & SHAPES

A blue circle, round like a ball,  
An orange square, sunny for all.  
A red rectangle, tall as can be,  
A green triangle, small as you see.  
A purple oval, wide as the sky,  
A yellow star, with a twinkle in its eye.

# Reminders and Upcoming Information

