

Preschool Activities Using Multiple Intelligences
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Updated 4/6/2016

Word Smart (Reading and Writing)

- Talk to your child frequently
- Take time to talk to each child individually every day. Listen to them. ¹
- Read aloud to child; storytelling
- Record your child's favorite stories ¹
- Attend story time at library or bookstores frequently
- Dictate what child says about a picture, story, activity ¹
- Storybook with CD
- Have child "read" to you using pictures from book
- Surround child with name (stickers, pencils, stamps, mugs, key chains, etc.)
- Puppets for dramatic play (finger, sock, paper bag, fabric)
- Letter hunt – search for letters in magazines/newspapers; cut out and glue ¹
- Create a picture dictionary using photos from the newspapers/magazines ¹
- Label objects in room ¹

Number/Logic Smart (Math Skills, Logic, Problem-Solving)

- Puzzles
- 1 to 1 correspondence with counting bears
- Answer "Why?" questions with trip to library
- Board games with dice/counting
- Cooking: Follow recipe – measure, pour, cut, sort (child's cookbook) ¹
- Start a collection: rocks, pennies, or stickers. Sort.
- Mazes
- Predict outcomes: What do you think will happen?
- Look for patterns & shapes in each room ¹
- Chores: sort laundry, measure pet's food & feed pets, chore charts, shop with allowance, sort toys ¹
- Have child name steps for doing something (make a sandwich, brush teeth, feeding pet) ¹

Picture Smart (Visual/Spatial)

- Recycle "junk" to use in crafts
- Build your own arts and crafts center. Include materials such as: Paint, water colors, brushes, crayons, markers, paper, scissors, glue, glitter, sequins, chalk, sidewalk chalk, play dough ¹
- Refer to landmarks and buildings as you drive/walk
- Maps & map reading: Draw map of neighborhood; use map at zoo
- Play Pictionary Junior
- Working with play money
- Computer programs – graphics, drawing, cards, posters ¹
- Use imagination in dramatic play, play with puppets, pretend play
- Visit art museums ¹

Body Smart (Action, High Energy)

- Manipulatives – play dough, blocks, Legos, Lincoln logs, string beads
- Build a backyard obstacle course, build inside too
- Games like Simon Says, London Bridges, Duck- Duck-Goose
- Roller-skate/roller blade/ride bike
- Exercise together; clean the house/yard together ¹
- Dance to music with scarves/ribbons
- Teach body parts and awareness
- Movement (scarves, beanbags)
- Learn simple dance steps from folk dances that represent different cultures
- Use different body parts to measure objects
- Compare how far different objects can be thrown ²
- Dress-up clothes & props for role playing ²

Music Smart (Rhythm, Poetry, and Songs)

- Pots and pans – teach rhythm and tones ¹
- Make homemade musical instruments ¹
- Have a parade with rhythm band instruments
- Play various types of music
- Perform sound and vibration experiments: i.e. fill glasses with different amounts of water
- Take to children's musicals at church/community
- Teach nursery rhymes and poetry ¹
- Campfire and sing-a-long
- Sing-a-long in car to radio or CD
- Use a drum to add emphasis to a story ³
- Tap foot or clap hands to highlight an action of the story ³

People Smart (Relating with Others)

- Teach character traits using Bible stories
- Invite friends over to play; monitor play; talk about later
- Model friendship
- Learn manners ¹
- Talk with people in the community – grocery clerks, police, fire
- Serve others - meals for homeless; visit elderly
- Take your child to community events ¹
- Home Helpers – help with siblings ¹
- Have child teach something to someone else
- Understand other's feelings
- Make posters of interesting faces (crying, laughing, smiling, etc.). Ask child to identify what person is thinking ¹

Self-Smart (Understanding Self)

- Ask child opinion (i.e.: what do you think about . . . ?)
- Give choices (wear this or that? what they want to do)
- Keep baby book. Recount child's birth.
- Keep a scrapbook. Record's child's thoughts/comments about event/activity
- Process aloud as you figure out your goals or plans for next day
- Set up child's personal corner for reading; a private spot in the house ¹
- Create a comfortable reading area in the house ¹

Nature Smart (Working with Plants and Animals and the Outdoors)

- Go camping; attend camp fire programs
- "Vacationing with the Bears" - Pitch tent & camp in backyard
- Plant seeds/flowers of their own
- Plant small garden that child helps with
- Care for Pet - fish, cat, dog, rabbit, hamster or pet sit for someone else
- Visit pet stores, aquariums, zoos & museums
- In the backyard - identify local plants; animals; insects; count birds; build a bird feeder, look for dead items ¹
- Weather - cloud identification; types of weather; rain gauge ¹
- Nature walk - collect seasonal items
- Indoor gardening - spouting seeds, transplanting plants outside ¹
- Water and/or sand table
- Make a family nature journal that everyone contributes to ⁴
- Photos & books about animals & natural world to explain topics ²
- Observe cause & effect in action ²
- Create plenty of chances to explore on own ²
- Provide sensory experiences ⁴
- Good items to provide (some require supervision): terrarium, microscope, bird feeder; ² magnifying glass, measuring cups, telescope ¹
- Choose nature friendly day trips & vacations ⁵

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