

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

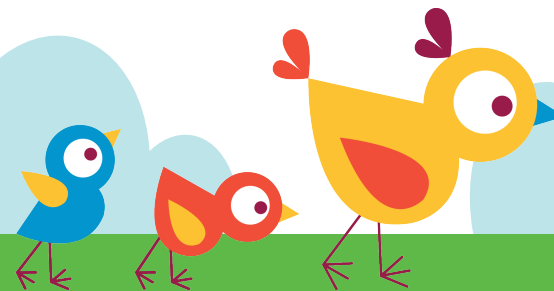
earlybird

educare@work



Red Group

Week 1



For families with children 4 - 5 years old
stuck at home during the COVID-19 lockdown.

About this Guide

This guide has been lovingly put together by teachers in the Earlybird network.

It is intended to provide **easy-to-implement activity ideas** in order to facilitate ongoing learning and development for children missing out on having these opportunities due to the mandated school-closure period.

We aim to release new guides every Friday on a weekly basis during the school-closure period.

This guide includes two activities for each day of the week for your 3 - 4 year old:

A HANDS-ON STEM ACTIVITY - aimed at encouraging curiosity, building, experimentation, reasoning and foundational mathematical skills.

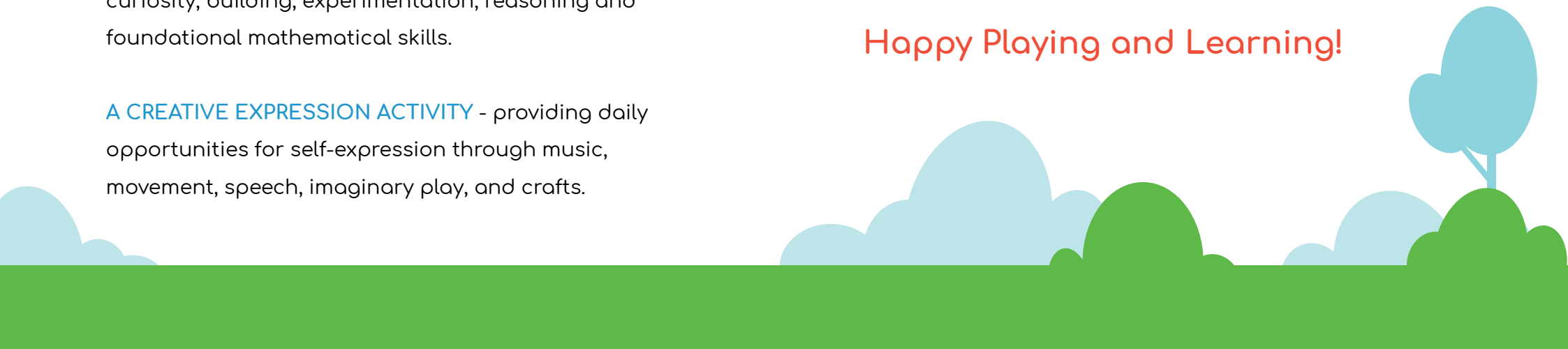
A CREATIVE EXPRESSION ACTIVITY - providing daily opportunities for self-expression through music, movement, speech, imaginary play, and crafts.

These more-or-less follow the three teacher-led activity periods during our daily routine for this age group. Each activity is aimed at supporting your child's progress in a particular "Objective for Development and Learning" or "ODL".

In addition to these hands-on STEM and creative expression activities, we recommend you read a story to your child every day and take them outside for some movement activities every day.

Activities should not take longer than **30-minutes to prep** and **30-minutes to implement** using items commonly found at home, in the grocery store or at a stationary shop.

Happy Playing and Learning!





Hands-on STEM

Name: Pattern Sorting

ODL: Classification

In brief: You can create as many different patterned paper discs as your creativity allows and have your child sort them according to different attributes (shapes, colour, linear, circular etc.)



Creative Expression

Name: Energy Cube

ODL: Vocabulary Development

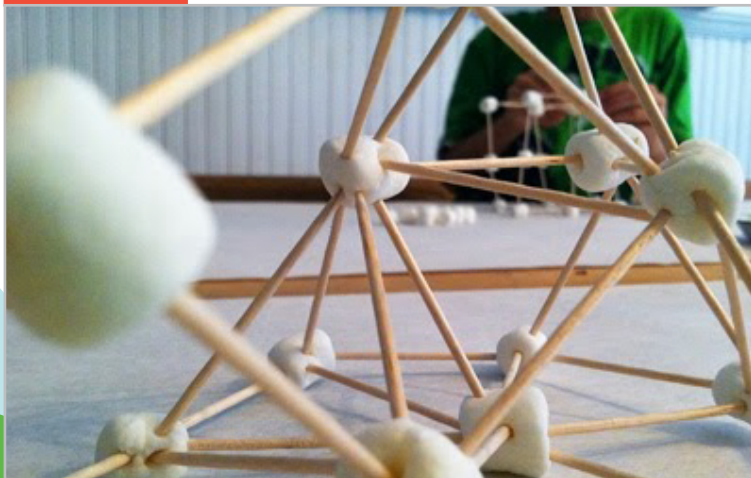
In brief: A simple google search for a cube net will provide with the template you need to make a cardboard cube. You can create dozens of fun games by labeling each side of the cube with different kinds of expression challenges for your child.





Hands-on STEM

Name:	3D Structures
ODL:	Shape recognition/manipulation
In brief:	Have your child connect wooden sticks using prestick to see how many different kinds of 3D structures they can create. Ask them what they notice about the stability of their different structures.



Creative Expression

Name:	Paper Bag Puppets
ODL:	Coherent Expression
In brief:	Work with your child to decorate upside-down paper-bags and then encourage them to name each of their paper-bag-puppet characters and come up with different voices and back-stories for them before putting on a show for the family.





Hands-on STEM

Name:	Roll and Tally
ODL:	Quantity tracking
In brief:	Create a table for your child with the first row headed with numbers 1-6. Have him/her roll a dice and make a tally mark in the relevant column to indicate which number the dice lands on every time he/she rolls it.



Creative Expression

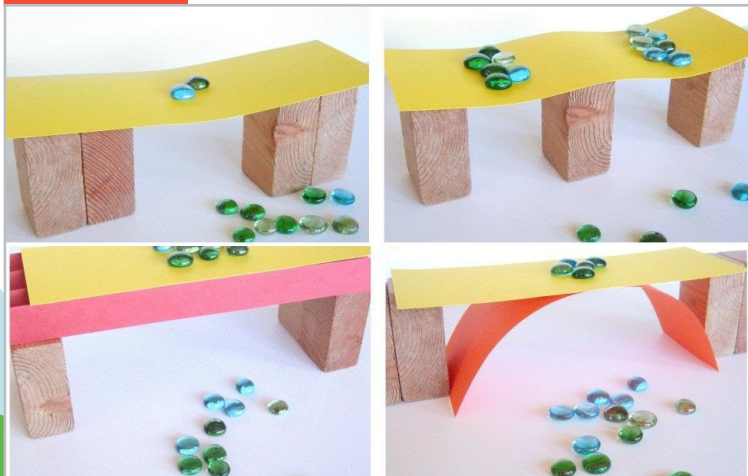
Name:	Leaf Art
ODL:	Shape recognition/manipulation
In brief:	Have your child collect as many fallen leaves as they can and then tape them to a white page and paint over them. Once the paint has dried, removed the taped leaves to reveal their silhouettes left behind.





Hands-on STEM

Name:	Building Bridges
ODL:	Shape recognition/manipulation
In brief:	Use wooden blocks and cardboard to work with your child to build and test four different possible bridge-structures. Can you come up with more versions beyond the ones pictured below?



Creative Expression

Name:	Threading Letters
ODL:	Shape recognition/manipulation
In brief:	Collect as many used boxes as possible before embarking on an exciting construction project with your child. Your only limit is your imagination!





Hands-on STEM

Name: Hidden Cards

ODL: Numeral recognition

In brief: Hide number cards from a standard deck of playing cards in a container filled with rice or sand. Place pages with numerals on them next to the container and ask your child to hunt for the hidden cards and place them on the relevant numeral.

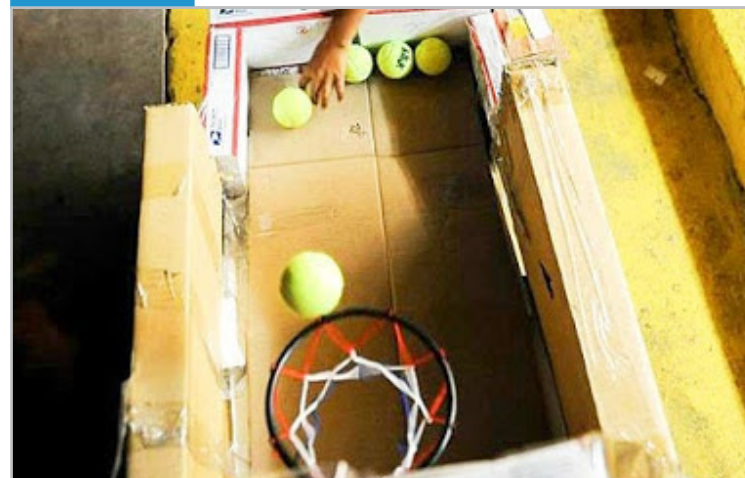


Creative Expression

Name: Mini basketball court

ODL: Hand-eye coordination

In brief: Use boxes, tennis balls and a wire ring to create a mini-basketball court at home. Let your child practice their hoop-shooting abilities (both right- and left-handed!)



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

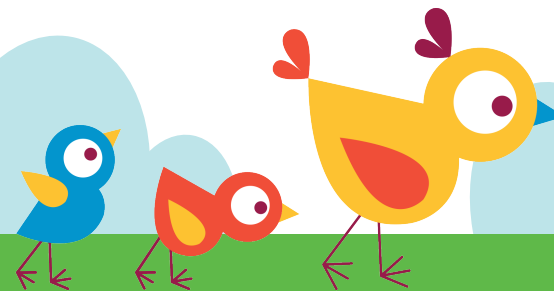
earlybird

educare@work



Red Group

Week 2



For families with children 4 - 5 years old
stuck at home during the COVID-19 lockdown.



Hands-on STEM

Name:	Cotton bud Daisies
ODL:	Fine motor coordination and reasoning
In brief:	Cut cotton earbuds in half and use yellow playdough to represent the pollen at the centre of the flowers and green straws or pipe cleaners for the leaves to create the daisy. Talk to your child about how flowers use their colours and scents to attract bees for pollination.



Creative Expression

Name:	Wind Chimes
ODL:	Planning and fine motor coordination
In brief:	Use old cans, string and paint to create a wind chime. Ensure the cans are safe with no sharp edges. Have your child paint them with an acrylic-base paint. After they have completely dried ask dad to make holes for the string and help your child thread and tie the string. Hang them somewhere outside where they will catch the wind.





Hands-on STEM

Name:

Train Town

ODL:

Position and Direction

In brief:

Using recycled cardboard boxes, help your child to create a train set by drawing tracks and adding stations for the train to stop at along the way. Focus on words denoting position and direction as you work with them on building their train town.



Creative Expression

Name:

Patchwork House

ODL:

Shape manipulation

In brief:

Cut out the basic shape of a house from an old cardboard box. Give your child scrap materials, glue, crayons and kokis and have them 'decorate' the house, using the various items and materials to create windows, doors, curtains, etc.



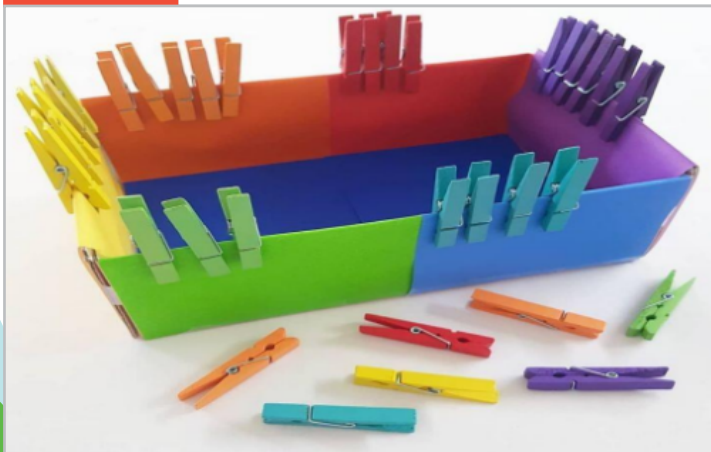


Hands-on STEM

Name: This little peggie

ODL: Counting and sorting

In brief: Using colour paper and clothes pegs, have your child sort the pegs to match the coloured pieces of paper. Ask them to count the total number of pegs of each colour and compare the number of pegs in each colour group.



Creative Expression

Name: Easter Egg Threading

ODL: Fine motor and hand-eye coordination

In brief: Cut an egg shape out of paper with holes in line on both ends. Let your child use coloured string to thread straight from one hole to the opposite one, and repeating action.





Hands-on STEM

Name: Threading Patterns

ODL: Patterning

In brief: Using string/wool and different coloured straws cut in 3 - 4 cm pieces (or penne pasta dyed with food colouring). Have your child thread a series of A-B-A-B style patterns (e.g. red, green, red, green) and then A-B-C, A-B-C patterns (e.g. red, green, blue, red, green, blue) and then AA-BB-AA-BB etc. etc.

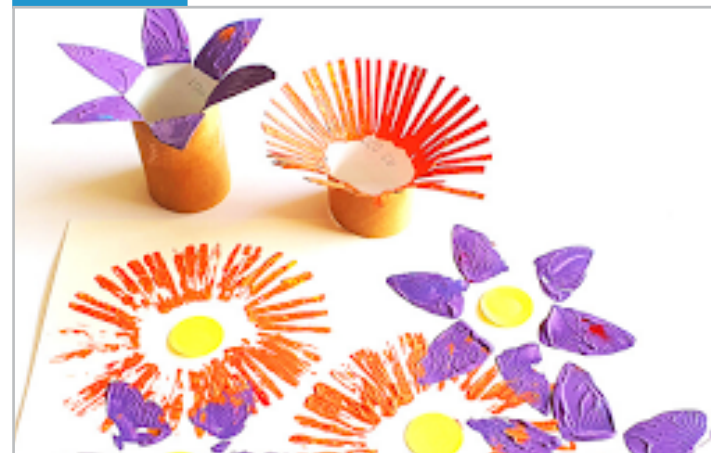


Creative Expression

Name: Toilet Roll Stamps

ODL: Cutting skills

In brief: Using child-safe scissors, work with your child to cut one end of cardboard toilet roll inners at one end into different shapes and styles. Press the cut ends to ensure they spread equally outward and then dip the cut ends into paint and let your child press them onto a piece of paper to make stamp art.





Hands-on STEM

Name: Shoe Lace Tying

ODL: Fine motor coordination

In brief: Have your child practice tying their own shoe laces, either on a pair of your shoes or on a recycled egg carton with punched holes for the laces. It helps if the laces are different colours. Once they get good have them try double-knots and tying the laces with their eyes closed!



Creative Expression

Name: Bunny Print

ODL: Inventiveness and imaginative

In brief: Cut out a silhouette of a bunny shape and stick it with prestick onto a clean piece of paper. Have your child decorate the space around the bunny shape and so on till their whole page is full off prints or colour of any kind. Remove the bunny shape when paint has dried to create a negative-shape art piece.



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

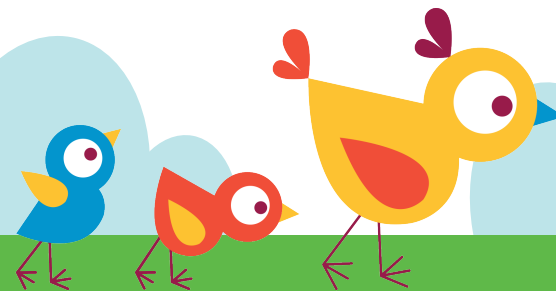
earlybird

educare@work



Red Group

Week 3



For families with children 4 - 5 years old
stuck at home during the COVID-19 lockdown.



Hands-on STEM

Name: Magic Balloons

ODL: Scientific Reasoning

In brief: Put 6 teaspoons of baking soda in to a balloon and pour cup vinegar into a soda bottle. Place the opening of the balloon around the opening of the bottle. Try not to let any baking soda fall into the bottle as you do this. When you are ready for some magic, lift the balloon to allow the baking soda to fall into the bottle.

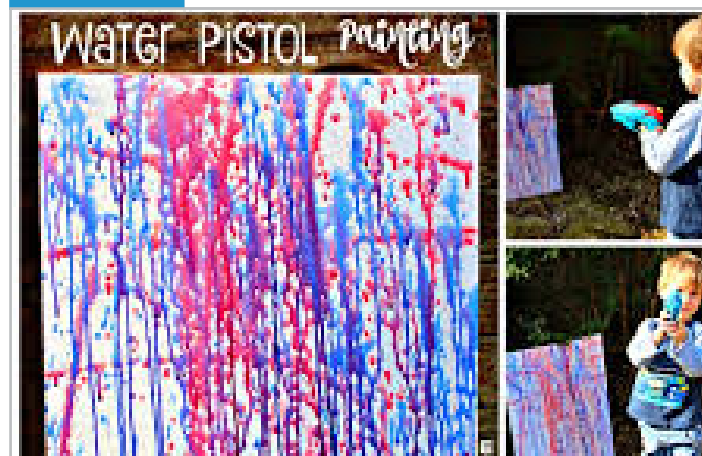


Creative Expression

Name: Water Pistol Painting

ODL: Visual Processing

In brief: Water Pistol painting is such a fun outdoor art activity for kids. Water down your chosen paint colour and pour it into the water pistol. Once your water pistols are full of paint take them outside, prop up a large canvas and get squirting





Hands-on STEM

Name:	Bean Plant Science Experiment
ODL:	Cause and Effect
In brief:	Dampen a paper towel and place the wet paper towel in a Ziplock Bag. Place the bean on top of wet paper towel. Close the Ziplock and place Ziplock Bag in a warm, sunny spot. Add water to paper towel when it dries out. Observe your plant growing in 3-5 days



Creative Expression

Name:	Egg Carton Flower
ODL:	Problem Solving
In brief:	Cut out four containers out of the egg carton. Trim around the edges so that it gives it a rounder shape for the petals of the flower. After the paint's dried you can attach the stem(straw) of the flower by gluing it to the back. Next choose a colored pom pom and glue that to the center of the painted egg carton.





Hands-on STEM

Name: Paper Cup Challenge

ODL: Prediction

In brief: Do you think you can stand on a paper cup? Would you expect it to break? Try spacing several cups out evenly and then place a sheet of cardboard on the top. Carefully try a second layer.



Creative Expression

Name: Paint Splatter

ODL: Fine Motor

In brief: Put your paper on the ground outside. Fill your balloons with paint and hold them firmly onto the paper. Pop the balloons with a sharp object holding the twist off end as you pop them.



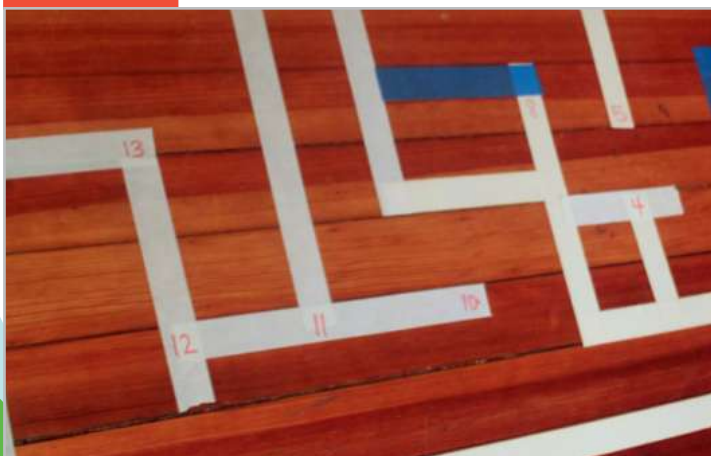


Hands-on STEM

Name: Number Maze

ODL: Spatial Scaling and Number Sequencing

In brief: You can either use tape inside or chalk outside to make a number maze for your child to navigate through with a toy car by finding a route which follows the sequence of the numbers 1-20.



Creative Expression

Name: Paper Plate Bunny Hat

ODL: Fine Motor

In brief: Use a pencil to LIGHTLY draw the bunny ears on the paper plate. Use a pink crayon to draw a pink inner ear inside of the bunny ear pencil lines. You should have a small amount of white space between the pencil lines and the pink inner ear. Carefully cut out the spaces that are NOT part of the bunny ears.



DIY PAPER PLATE BUNNY EARS

Fold paper plate in half and cut along the dotted lines.





Hands-on STEM

Name: Animal Tracks

ODL: Making and Testing Predictions

In brief: As your child make tracks with animal toys, have them look at the toy feet and consider these questions. What do the feet look like? What shape are they? Do some creatures (like elephants and sauropod dinosaurs) have similar looking feet? Are their tracks similar, too?



Creative Expression

Name: Pebble Ladybugs

ODL: Symmetry

In brief: Ask your child to gather some pebbles and to wash them in warm water. Dry them with a towel and place them on some newspaper with some paints and paintbrushes set out for your child to decorate the pebbles with.



LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GUIDE

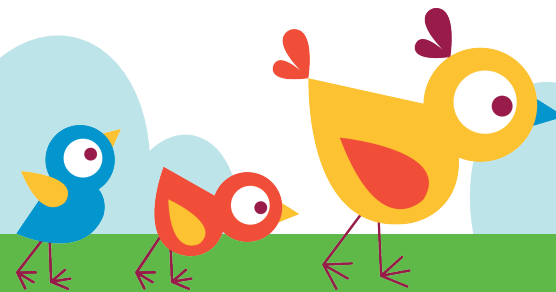
earlybird

educare@work



Red Group

Week 4



For families with children 4 - 5 years old
stuck at home during the COVID-19 lockdown.



Hands-on STEM

Name:	People in my Home
ODL:	Shape recognition and fine motor development
In brief:	Draw the people in your home, cut out a large rectangle, small rectangles and a triangle. Paste the house on a separate piece of paper and paste the people in your home. Paste the smaller triangles for shutters.



Creative Expression

Name:	Jelly Fish
ODL:	Fine motor development
In brief:	Cut a paper plate in half. Paint or colour the plate in, draw or paste on some eyes. Cut wool into lengths, make holes with a paper punch. A plastic shopping bag may also be used. Tie the wool or paste the bag.





Hands-on STEM

Name: Easter Egg Basket

ODL: Fine motor development

In brief: Cut a paper plate in half. Colour or paint the plate in colour of your choice. Draw 6 ovals for eggs, decorate as you wish and cut them out. Paste them into the basket. Cut strips of paper for the basket weave and handle.



Creative Expression

Name: Google 3D animals

ODL: Imagination

In brief: Google the animals on the list in 3D. Choose an animal that is the best for you. Draw the 3D animal and the environment around it..

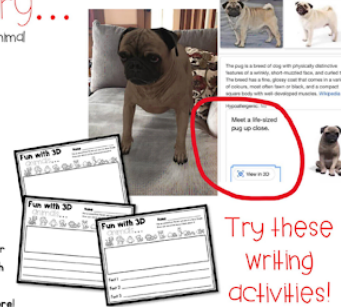
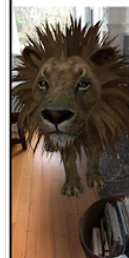
Google "View in 3D" Animals!

Google the animal on your smartphone. If it's available to view in 3D you will see the "view in 3D" option.

Animals to try...

*not available for every animal

- Pug
- Lion
- Tiger
- Shark
- Goat
- Snake
- Eagle
- Turtle
- Cat
- Horse
- Alligator
- Cheetah
- Shark
- And more!



Try these writing activities!



Hands-on STEM

Name:

Giant colour and or shape memory game

ODL:

Memory

In brief:

Draw shapes/colours onto paper plates. Turn them over and match them up.



Creative Expression

Name:

Chalk drawing

ODL:

Imagination

In brief:

Make a creative "frame" with masking tape on the pavement. Colour in with chalk.





Hands-on STEM

Name:	Coloured flowers
ODL:	Colour recognition, fine motor
In brief:	Draw flowers, colour or paint the petals (red, yellow, blue and green), use pegs to match the colours



Creative Expression

Name:	"Hair" cutting
ODL:	Fine motor
In brief:	Draw faces on coloured paper and "hair" in different patterns and lengths with a marker. Paste onto Ice-cream sticks.. Cut the "hair".

