Daily Baby Activities

Sunday	Put your baby in front of a mirror with some toys and see if they watch themselves playing. If not, encourage them to look at the mirror by pointing to it.	When you and your baby see a familiar face (i.e. on video chat, outside), tell that person "hello" or "hi" and wave. Encourage your baby to wave too. Do the same when someone leaves and says, "goodbye".
Monday	Look at family pictures and tell your baby who each member of the family is and what occasion the picture was taken at.	While sitting in front of a mirror with your baby, tickle your baby's body. Name and point to each body part you tickle.
Tuesday	Ask your baby, "How big are you?" Gently put their arms out wide and above their head, and say, "So big!"	While your baby is on their tummy, massage their back and gently talk to them. Praise them for the movements they do (or try to do).
Wednesday	Put yourself and your baby in front of a mirror and tell them what you are both seeing (i.e. "I see your feet and my feet").	While your baby is on their tummy, play with a toy in front of them, so they're inclined to lift their head and reach out for the toy in your hands.
Thursday	Show your baby different expressions (i.e. looking sad, happy, surprised). Let your baby touch your face and explore your features.	Give your baby a smile. Tell them that you are smiling. Show them pictures from albums, magazines, etc. of other people smiling.
Friday	Look at pictures of animals and tell your baby what animal it is and what sound they make.	Spray water onto the mirror, then give your baby large pieces of cellophane to stick to the mirror.
Saturday	Hold out your baby's hands in front of them and help them do different movements, such as opening and closing their hands, clapping, etc.	After your baby's bath, rub some gently textured items (i.e. things that are soft, smooth) on their tummy and explain to them what they are and how they feel.

*If you'd like, do the daily activities repeatedly, and on other days too! Repetition is key for babies to learn and develop.



Monster Shapes

Your little one can practice learning their shapes with this fun monster activity. Great for ages 1.5 years and up.

What You Need:

- Construction paper (lots of different colours)
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers

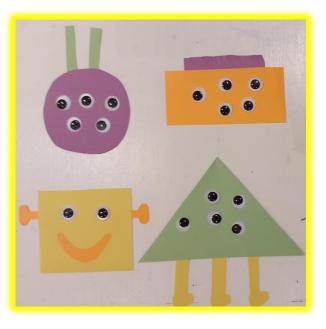
Directions:

- 1. Pre-cut simple shapes, such as a triangle, square, rectangle, circle and oval, as well as, some antennas, legs, arms and mouths.
- 2. Give one shape at a time to your little one and then have them turn the shape into a monster using the pre-cut body parts and googly eyes.
- 3. Once they have finished one shape monster, have them do the next.
- 4. Repeat until all shapes are done.

Talking Points:

Recognition of shapes is an important preliteracy skill as it helps your little one start to identify differences and how many letters are made up of simple shapes. So, make sure to talk to your little one about the different shapes they are using to make their monsters.

On VPL's database, <u>TumbleBook Library</u>, watch the video, "<u>Round is a Mooncake</u>" by Roseanne Thong.





M is for Monster

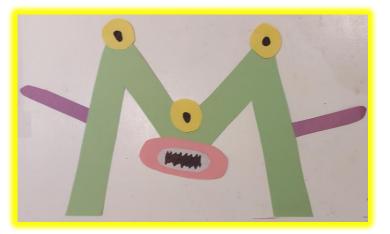
Your little pre-reader will get to practice learning their letter "M". Great for ages 1.5 years and up.

What You Need:

- Construction paper (lots of different colours)
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue

Directions:

1. Draw a bubble letter "M" and cut it out. If your little one is able, have them cut the letter "M" out.



- 2. Using different coloured construction paper, draw eyes, hair, antennas and a mouth. Cut them out or have your little one cut them out.
- 3. Glue the eyes, hair, antennas and mouth onto the letter "M" to make a monster

Talking Points:

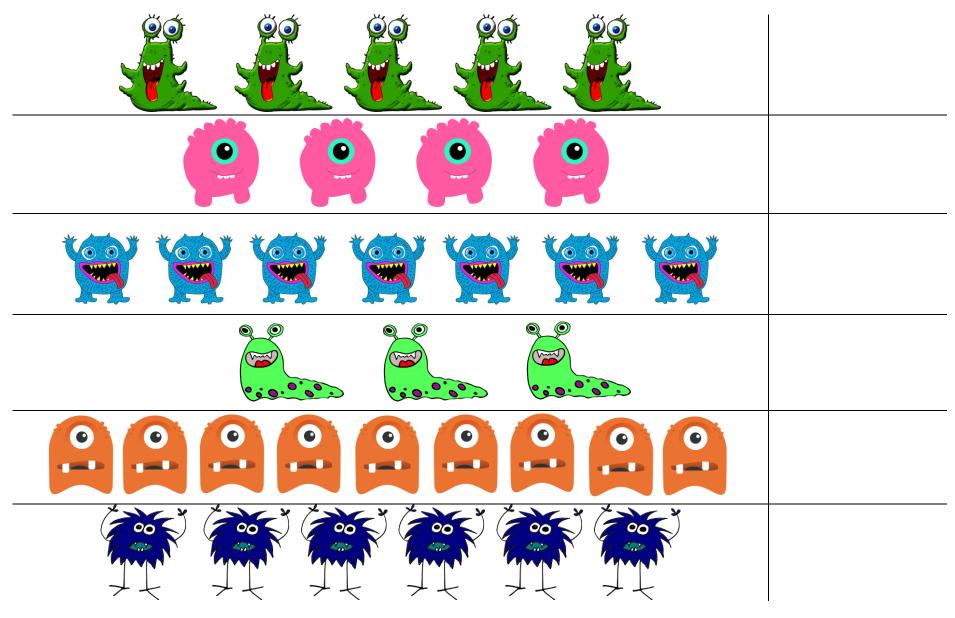
Talk to your little one about the letter M. Ask (or tell) your little one other animals or things that start with the letter M. Tell them that the letter M makes a "mmm" sound. Say "mmm" a few times to emphasize the sound. And then sing the alphabet song.

On VPL's database, <u>TumbleBook Library</u>, watch the video, "<u>ABC Letters in the Library</u>" by Roseanne Thong.



Monster Numbers

Print this page and then have your little one count the monsters and write the number. Great for ages 3 years and up.





Here are a couple of songs to sing to your little one...

Mirror, Mirror

Mirror, mirror, on the wall. Who is the fairest of them all? Mirror, mirror, who do I see? My baby looking back at me!

Where or Where are Baby's Fingers?

Where oh where are baby's fingers? Where oh where are baby's toes? Where oh where is baby's belly button? Round and round it goes. Where oh where are baby's ears? Where oh where is baby's nose? Where oh where is baby's belly button? Round and round it goes.



Cheek Chin

Cheek chin, cheek chin, cheek chin, nose. (Touch baby's nose) Cheek chin, cheek chin, cheek chin, toes. (Touch baby's toes) Cheek chin, cheek chin, up baby goes! (Lift baby in the air)

