

Daily Baby Activities

Sunday	Throw a tissue, a scarf (or something light) up in the air and let it fall to your hands. Help your baby throw it too.	Use a bedsheet as a parachute for your baby. With the help of someone, lift the sheet for your baby to crawl under or shake it while they're on top.
Monday	In front of a fan, hold out light material (i.e. streamer, ribbon, tissue, scarf) and let your baby watch it move.	Lie down with your baby (or sit with them) in front of a window with sun streaming in and talk about how bright the sun is and how warm it feels.
Tuesday	Have your baby touch a cold or frosty window and talk to them about how it is cold outside and describe what you see.	Lay your baby on their back and sway a scarf over them and gently over their face. Move it in different directions above them (i.e. side to side).
Wednesday	Wave two pieces of coloured fabric or scarves back and forth and make them "fly". Give to your baby and see if they will copy you.	Grab a scarf and do various movements in front of your baby, such as shaking it and throwing it in the air. Pass the scarf to your baby to play with.
Thursday	As you're folding laundry, bring the clothes to a reachable level for your baby to easily touch, grab and explore.	Hold on to one end of the towel while your baby holds on to the other end. Play a gentle tug-of-war. Let your baby win by gently releasing the towel.
Friday	While wearing a colourful hat or scarf, face your baby towards you and let them explore the item.	Place different kinds of scarves or fabric inside a bag or a basket and encourage your baby to pick one up and explore the textures, colours, etc.
Saturday	Wear a scarf and while holding your baby, tell them what the scarf is normally used for (i.e. "It's to keep mommy's neck warm.").	Hide behind the drapes (or hide under a blanket). Talk to your baby as you're hidden. See if they'll grab the drapes or the blanket to find you.

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

Star of David

Your little one will feel like an artist in this easy painting project. Great for ages 1 year and up.

What You Need:

- Cardstock (or canvas)
- Watercolour paint - ideally blue
- Paintbrush
- Painters tape

Directions:

1. Have an adult tape two overlapping triangles onto a piece of cardstock to make a Star of David.
2. Have your little one paint the whole page - ideally in blue.
3. Let dry.
4. Once dry, peel the tape off.

Talking Points:

Talk to your little one about all the shapes and colours they see while painting. Talk about the significance of the Star of David.

If your little one enjoyed this activity encourage them to do it again and again. You can even fold the cardstock in half and have your little one paint a Star of David on the front to turn it into a nice holiday card.

Borrow the book [Caleb's Hanukkah](#) by Lisa Bullard from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#).



Menorah

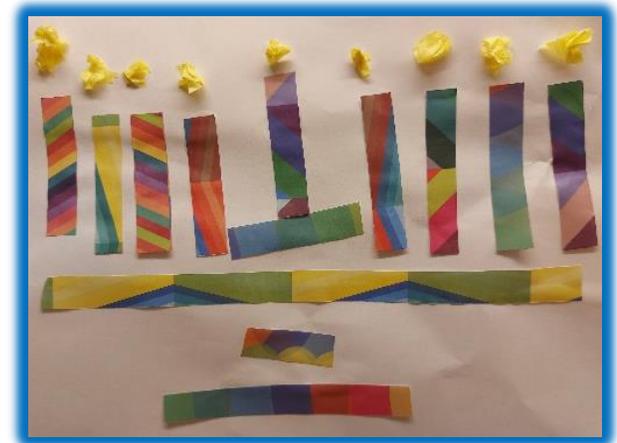
Your little artist will practice their fine motor skills and eye hand coordination skill with this activity. Great for ages 3 years and up (although a younger child could easily do the activity if it were pre-cut).

What You Need:

- Blank piece of paper
- Pencil (for drawing rectangles)
- Colourful paper (either construction paper or design paper)
- Yellow tissue paper
- Glue
- Scissors

Directions:

1. On the piece of colourful paper draw 9 long rectangles (candlesticks), 2 short rectangles, 1 medium size rectangle and 1 very long rectangle (base of menorah).
2. Have your little one cut out all the rectangles.
3. Glue the rectangles onto the blank piece of paper.
4. Rip up some yellow tissue paper and have your little one glue them on top of each candle. You can even have your little one 'light' one candle on their menorah artwork each day during Hanukkah.



Talking Points:

Encourage your little one to practice their cutting skills. If they get frustrated hold the piece of paper and tell them the scissors are like an alligator - they open their mouth, and then they do little chomps to cut the paper.

Talk to your little one about the importance of the menorah. Explain that it symbolizes the miracle that happened when the Jewish army rededicated their temple to their own god, and how there was only enough oil to last one day, but instead the oil lamp burned for eight days.

Borrow the book [How Do Dinosaurs Say Happy Chanukah?](#) by Jane Yolen from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#).

Driedal

Your little one will have fun creating their own multi-colour dreidel. Great for ages 1 year and up.

What You Need:

- Cardstock (or construction paper)
- Tissue paper (different colours, pre-cut into 1/2-inch squares).
- Glue
- Scissors

Directions:

1. Cut a piece of cardstock into the shape of a dreidel.
2. Have your little one glue different pieces of tissue paper onto the dreidel.
3. Let dry.

Talking Points:

Explain to your little one that a Hanukkah custom is playing with dreidels. Let them know that a dreidel is a four-sided spinning top with Hebrew letters on each side - Nun, Gimel, Hey or Chai, and Shin. The letters form an acronym for the Hebrew saying *Nes Gadol Hayah Sham*, which can be translated to "a great miracle happened there".



Borrow the book [*I know An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel*](#) by Caryn Yacowitz from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#).

Hanukkah Tracing

Print out the page and have your little one trace the Hanukkah words using a pencil or marker.



Dreidel



Menorah



Star



Latkes



Gelt

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

Let's Light One Candle for Hanukkah (Tune: *The Wheels on the Bus*)

Let's light one candle for Hanukkah, Hanukkah, Hanukkah, (hold up one finger)

Let's light one candle for Hanukkah

On the first day.

Let's light two candles ... on the second day. (hold up two fingers)

Repeat up to eight. To mimic candles on a menorah, hold up only fingers, not thumbs, for four candles per side of the menorah--skipping the middle candle (the shammas)



The Dreidel Song

I have a little dreidel. I made it out of clay.

And it's when dry and ready. Then dreidel I shall play.

Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel. I made it out of clay.

And when it's dry and ready. Then dreidel I shall play.

Here's a Little Turtle (Scarf Song)

Here's a little turtle, hiding in his shell. (Crumple scarf in hands)

Here's a little turtle that we love so well.

He always moves slowly (*shake slowly*), he never moves fast (*shake faster*).

Until he pops out to say hello at last! Hello! (*Reveal scarf and throw it in the air*).

