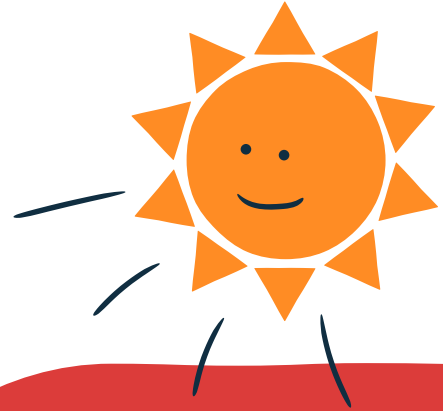


At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers (2 years old)

Week of June 15, 2020



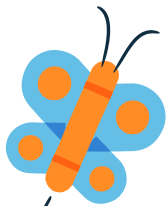
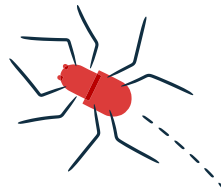
Summer is here and our At-Home Guides have a **new look!** Each week during the summer, you'll find five activities you can do with your child to keep them learning through movement and discovery as well as a fun game you can play as a family. This first week of our summer guide for Discovery Preschoolers continues the theme **Insects and Spiders**. Whether you've returned to your center or you're still learning from home, you and your child can bring the interesting world of insects and spiders to life with these **fun** activities.



This week is all about insects! From ants on the ground to bumblebees in flight, song and movement activities will keep your child **moving**. They will also learn about the different parts of an insect's body and put what they learn to use in an "Insect Pokey" dance. To slow things down, we've recommended a couple of insect **books** you and your child can read together.

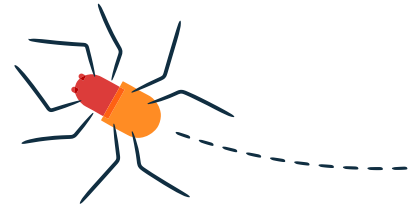


Some children are fascinated by insects and spiders; others, not so much. You know your child better than anyone. As you work through the activities in this guide, be **sensitive to their feelings** towards insects and spiders. Pay attention to how your child reacts and, if needed, adjust activities so they're within your child's comfort zone. Keep in mind that children take their cues from us, so even if creepy crawlies aren't your favorite, **demonstrating comfort and appreciation** for insects will help your child to do the same!



This Week's Theme:

Insects and Spiders



What you'll find in this guide...

We've provided activities similar to what your child would be learning in their center. You and your child can choose your own adventures and do the activities in any order you'd like, repeating and revisiting them as often as you want! Click on the icons below to discover more...

LET'S READ

Books about Insects



Books provide a rich opportunity for your child to learn about insects while engaging with you in conversations and building language skills.



LET'S EXPLORE

Insect Puzzles

You and your child learn about the parts of an insect and then create your own insect puzzles.



LET'S SING

"The Ants Go Marching"

Get ready to march along as you and your child count to five with this catchy tune.



LET'S SING

"I'm a Little Bumblebee"

Learn about bumblebees and then pretend to be one as you sing this song.



LET'S MOVE

"Insect Pokey"

Move and groove along to this fun twist on the classic, "Hokey Pokey."



GAME TIME

Can you find...?

Play a question and answer game that puts your child's observation skills to the test!



FOCUS ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Help your child develop important social-emotional skills by working on your family project! This week, we invite your family to explore the theme **Who Are the Helpers?**

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020

Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

Books about Insects

- Books about insects, such as *I Love Bugs*; *Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!*; or *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Insect Puzzles

- [Insect pictures](#)
- Paper, 1 sheet
- Scissors (for adult use only)
- Cardboard (optional)
- Glue stick (optional)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils (if a printer isn't available)

“The Ants Go Marching”

- [“The Ants Go Marching” lyrics](#)

“I’m a Little Bumble Bee”

- [Bumblebee picture](#)
- [“I’m a Little Bumblebee” lyrics](#)

“Insect Pokey”

- [“Insect Pokey” lyrics](#)

Tip: At the beginning of your week, gather materials and place them in a container so you're ready to go!



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Let's Read: Books about Insects

Books provide a rich opportunity for your child to learn about insects while engaging with you in conversations and building language skills.



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** High



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- Books about insects, such as *I Love Bugs*; *Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!*; or *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

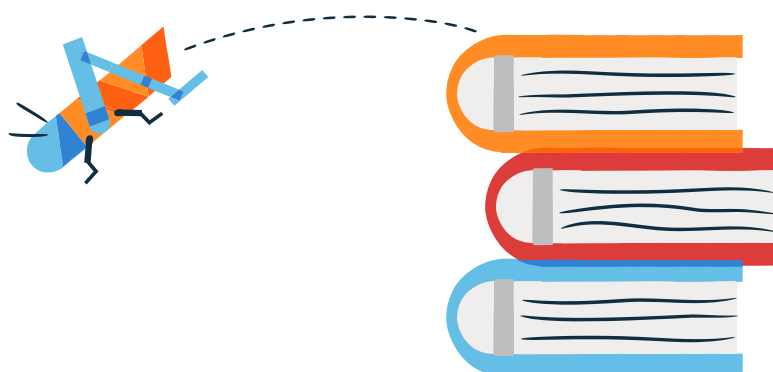
What your child is learning:

- How to make connections between text and illustrations
- The ability to pay attention to text read aloud
- How to ask and answer questions

What you do: Select a book to read with your child. Begin the read-aloud by sharing the cover and the title of the book with them and then read it aloud to them. After reading the book, go back and look at the illustrations together. Talk with your child about the illustrations by asking questions, such as:

- What insects do you see in the picture?
- Where is the grasshopper in the picture?
- What are the ants doing?

Reading the same book over again every day is a great way to build your child's confidence, sense of mastery, and language skills.



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Let's Explore: Insect Puzzles

You and your child learn about the parts of an insect and then create your own insect puzzles.



Length of activity:
15 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High



Level of Prep Required: Medium



What you need:

- Cardboard (optional)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils (if a printer isn't available)
- Glue stick (optional)
- [Insect pictures](#)
- Paper, 1 sheet
- Scissors (for adult use only)

What your child is learning:

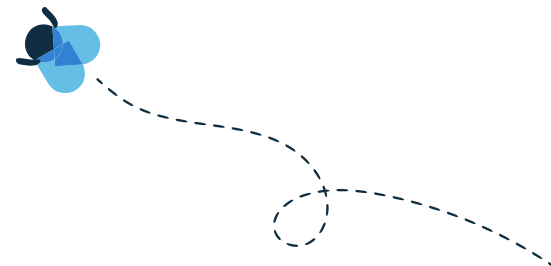
- The parts of an insect
- To put together simple objects
- To complete a multi-step task with adult assistance

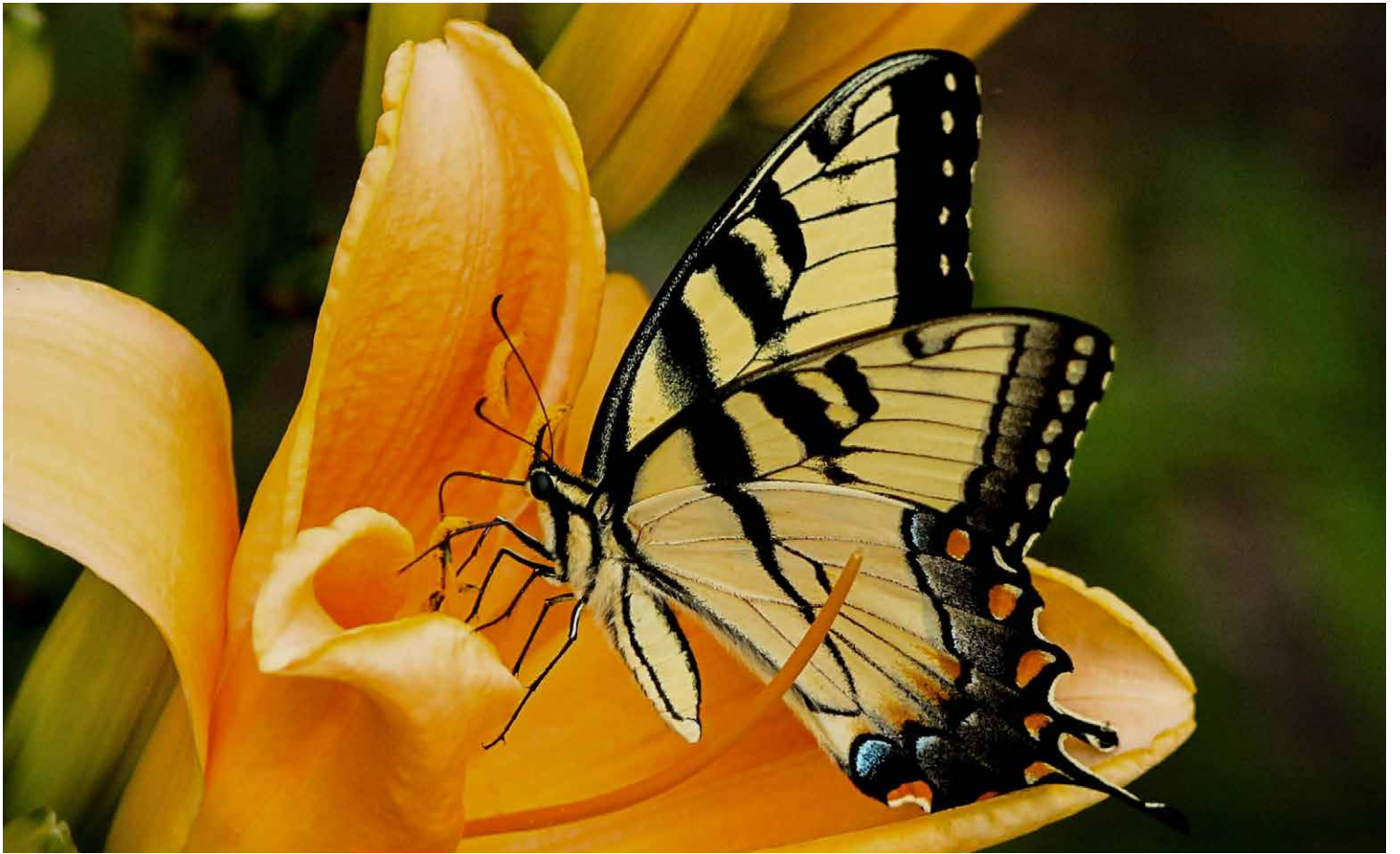
What you do: Print the insect [pictures](#). If you'd like, you can glue the pictures to cardboard to make them last longer.

Show your child the two pictures and ask them what they see in the pictures. Explain that both are pictures of insects—one is a beetle and the other a butterfly. Share that all insects have six legs, two antennae, and three body sections. As you share, point to and count each of the body parts with your child.

Cut each picture into six to eight simple puzzle pieces. Select one puzzle and give the pieces to your child to put together. As they work, talk with them about what they're doing and make observations about how they're putting the puzzle together. "Where do you think that piece goes?" "This piece has part of the flower on it, what other pieces have part of the flower?" When they are finished, invite them to do the other puzzle.

If a printer isn't available, use the images to talk with your child, and then draw a basic insect on a sheet of paper and invite your child to color it and add details, then cut the drawing into puzzle pieces.





At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Let's Sing: "The Ants Go Marching"

Get ready to march along as you and your child count to five with this catchy tune.



Length of activity:
10 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult:** High



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- ["The Ants Go Marching" lyrics](#)

What your child is learning:

- Beginning counting skills
- How to add creative movement to song
- Fine-motor skills when holding up differing numbers of fingers

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the words and movements to ["The Ants Go Marching."](#) Tell your child that you're going to sing a song about marching ants, and that you'll hold up your fingers to show how many ants are marching. Sing the song and as your child becomes familiar with the repeated lines, encourage them to hold up the corresponding number of fingers and sing along.

Repeat the song a second time, adding the following movements to the song:

- "The ants go marching" (*march in place while holding up the corresponding number of fingers, continue marching for the entire song*)
- "And they all go marching down to the ground" (*slowly squat down as you march*)
- "BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!" (*slowly stand up as you march until you are upright*)

The Ants Go Marching

The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah!

The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah!

The ants go marching one by one.

The little one stops to suck her thumb.

And they all go marching down to the ground

To get out of the rain.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

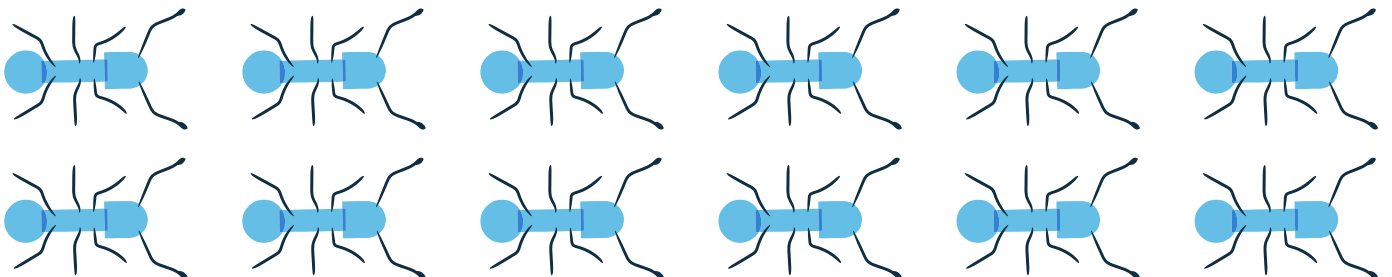
Other verses:

Two by two...The little one stops to tie her shoe.

Three by three...The little one stops to scratch her knee.

Four by four...The little one stops to shut the door.

Five by five...The little one stops to wave Goodbye.



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Let's Sing: "I'm a Little Bumblebee"

Learn about bumblebees and then pretend to be one as you sing this song.



Length of activity:
10 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

**Level of Engagement
Required by Adult: High**



Level of Prep Required: Low



What you need:

- [Bumblebee picture](#)
- ["I'm a Little Bumblebee" lyrics](#)

What your child is learning:

- How to add creative movement to song
- How to relate what they have learned about living things to new situations
- How their body moves in different directions and at different levels

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the words and movements to ["I'm a Little Bumblebee."](#) Show your child the [picture](#) of the bumblebee. Share that a bumblebee is an insect, and that it has three body sections, six legs, antennae, and wings. As you talk about each part of the bumblebee, point to it on the picture.

Stand with your child so they can see and copy your movements. Tell them you're going to sing a song about a bumblebee, and that you'll perform some actions that go along with the song. Sing the song and act out the movements, inviting your child to copy you. Sing the song again and as your child becomes familiar with the lines, encourage them to sing along.



I'm a Little Bumblebee

(sung to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

I'm a little bumblebee, *(use thumbs to point to self)*

See me fly. *(spread arms and pretend to fly)*

I use my wings

To touch the sky. *(reach up toward the sky)*

Land on flowers, *(squat down)*

Down below,

I collect the pollen, *(move hands in a scooping motion)*

And off I go. *(stand up, spread arms and pretend to fly)*



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Let's Move: "Insect Pokey"

Move and groove along to this fun twist on the classic "Hokey Pokey."



Length of activity:
10 minutes*

*Duration will vary depending on your child's interest.

Level of Engagement Required by Adult: High



Level of Prep Required: Low



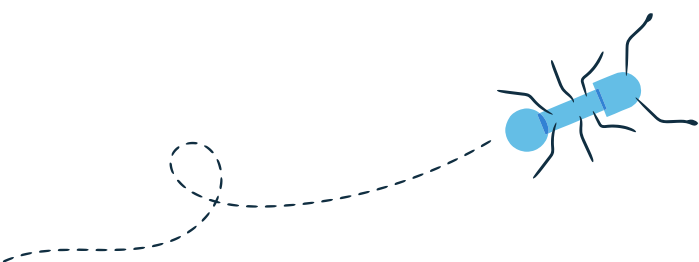
What you need:

- "Insect Pokey" lyrics (below)

What your child is learning:

- How to follow directions in song
- How to relate what they have learned about living things to new situations
- How their body moves in different directions and at different levels

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the words and movements to "Insect Pokey." Stand with your child so they can see and copy your movements. Tell them you're going to share a song and a dance with them called "Insect Pokey" and that the song uses the different parts of insects to tell you what part of your body to move. Sing the song and perform the movements, encouraging your child to move along. Sing the song again, or throughout the week, and as your child becomes familiar with the lines, encourage them to sing along.



"Insect Pokey"

(sung to the tune of the "Hokey Pokey")

You put your antennae in,
(lean head forward)



You put your antennae out,
(lean head back)

You put your antennae in and you wiggle them all around.
(lean head forward and gently shake from side to side)

You do the Insect Pokey and wiggle all about.
(wave hands and wiggle)

Insects and spiders are great!



Additional verses:

You put your wings in...
(put hands on hips and flap arms)

You put your legs in...
(move one leg in front of you and then back)

You put your abdomen in...
(stick stomach forward)

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020



Game Time: Can you find...?

Play a question and answer game that puts your child's observation skills to the test!

Use the picture below to ask your child to find and name objects using different attributes. Help build their vocabulary by asking them to name the object they find!

Here are some questions to get you started:

- Can you find something pink?
- Can you find an insect?
- Can you find a star?
- Can you find something you draw with?
- Can you find something you wear on your face?
- Can you find something you build with?

You can also play a counting game by counting the number of objects of a specific color, shape, or type.



At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020

Focus on Social and Emotional Learning: Family Project

Help your child develop important social-emotional skills by working on your family project!



For the past few weeks, your family has been working through different themes for your family project. This week, we invite your family to explore the theme **Who Are the Helpers?**

Mr. Rogers was famous for saying “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘**Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.**’”

Helpers are all around us. You only need to know what helpful actions to look for. The helpers are taking care of sick folks and providing meals for children out of school. They’re standing up for others and using their voices to contact lawmakers and community leaders. They’re donating their money, supplies, and time to lifting others up and cleaning up messes. And they do it all to make the world a better place for everyone.



This week, continue your family project by **reflecting on the helpers you’ve seen** on the news, in your community, and even in your home. What acts of service has your family been **inspired by** over the last few weeks? Ask your child to think of examples of how one person’s desire to help **made a difference** in someone else’s life. How you can represent the actions and inspiration helpers give in your family project?

At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers

Week of June 15, 2020

Note: In case you missed it, we released [Our Stay-at-Home Story: A KinderCare Family Project](#) in May. By working on your project together, you're helping your child develop important social-emotional skills in fun new ways, while building their communication skills, creativity, and confidence! Many of the project suggestions require little preparation and are perfect to weave into your regular day.

If you've opted out of the project, just talking about your common experiences is a great way to build your child's skills and come closer together as a family. Use the themes below as a conversation starter with your child. The most important part of social-emotional learning is creating an opportunity for sharing feelings and building community with others.

THEMES:

- **All the Feels:** Explore and identify your hopes, worries, gratitude, or frustrations.
- **Building Connections:** Find a way to embrace your family and community from a distance.
- **What Is Essential:** Redefine what *essential* means through your everyday actions.
- **Flexible Mindsets:** How are you learning and growing together as a family?
- **Who Are the Helpers:** Who is helping us? How are we helping others?

