



# Book Buddies

To continue your storytime experience we encourage you to use these "Book Buddies" with your children at home.

## Theme: Summertime

### Some stories to share:

Summer is Summer by Phyllis Gershator

Mouse's First Summer by Lauren Thompson



### Literacy Hint:

Learning about sand and all the things it can do is a new experience for many children, especially if they haven't been to a sandy beach. Explain the important things to remember when playing in the sand and about sharing sandy toys with friends.

### Finger play- Day At the Beach

Ocean breeze blowing, (*sway arms back and forth*).

Feet kick and splash, (*kick feet*).

Ocean waves breaking on rocks with a crash. (*clap hands loudly*)

Boys finding seashells, (*look down pick up pretend shell*)

Girls sifting sand, (*pretend to sift*)

Friends building castles, (*put one hand on top of the other*)

As high as they can.

I stretch my arms out, (*arms out to sides*),

Far as they'll reach.

Oh my, what fun

On this day at the beach.

### Water Writer

Rinse out a dishwashing soap bottle and fill it with water. Show your child how to squeeze water out of the bottle to make designs on a cement patio, a sidewalk or a wood deck. Then let your child watch his or her designs disappear as the water evaporates.



### Sun Prints

Take your child outside to collect leaves, small rocks, and twigs. Have her/him arrange their items on pieces of dark-colored construction paper. Then help your child find a sunny spot where the wind will not blow the items away. (A spot near a window works well for this activity.) Have him/her set the paper in the sunny spot. After several hours, have your child lift up the items and observe the color of the paper underneath. What do he/she notice?



### Concentration Pool

If you have an outdoor wading pool, the following activity is a great way to combine learning with play. Collect 22 opaque plastic lids. Divide the lids into two sets of 11. With a waterproof marker, number the first set from 0 to 10. Mark the second set with dots to match the numbered lids. Float the lids face down in the wading pool and let your children take turns flipping lids to find the matching pairs.

Variation: Younger children will enjoy simply counting and playing with the floating lids. As the children explore, ask questions to challenge their thinking.

### Applesauce Ice

Freeze unsweetened applesauce in ice-cube trays. Crush the frozen cubes in a blender until slushy. Serve in small paper cups.



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