

PRESCHOOL FUN!

STARTING CLASS

Name Games. Roll the ball (Good morning, thank you). Willoby Wallaby. Good Morning song.

Willoughby Wallaby Woo, an elephant sat on you.

Willoughby Wallaby Wee, an elephant sat on me.

Willoughby Wallaby Wustin, an elephant sat on Justin.

Willoughby Wallaby Wania, an elephant sat on Tania.

Good morning Name, Good morning Name, Good morning Name

We're so glad you're here today.

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Red Elbow. The teacher shouts a body part and a color. The whole class must put that body part on something of that color. Great for quickly energizing a sluggish class or focusing a rowdy class. Need to do this once or so a week over several weeks for it to catch on and be most useful.

Jack-in-the-Box. Jack in the box. Down his house. Quiet as a little mouse, will he come out? Will he come play? Hip hip hip hooray!

Yoga Poses. Teach the kids a few key poses, then, when you call out those poses have everyone stop and see how long they can hold it. <http://www.abcyogaforkids.com/>

SENSORY ACTIVITIES (BEFORE CLASS? AFTER CLASS? DURING CRAFT TIME?)

Having a sensory center is a great way to get the youngest classes to mingle and play together. It also gives an option for kids who aren't skilled enough yet or are uninterested in crafts.

Making Rainbow Rice. A sensory table is such a great class investment. ½ tsp to 1 cup rice plus as much food coloring as you want.

Other sensory bin ideas: beans/seeds, dyed noodles (put shoelaces in too and they can make necklaces), cooked spaghetti noodles (great "worms"), sand, dirt, water. Have spoons, cups, bowls, and small plastic toys to mix in for added fun. Toys can be swapped out to go with your class themes.

Monster Bubbles. 6 cups water, 1/2 cup blue Dawn dish detergent (original, non-ultra supposedly works better), 1/2 cup corn starch, 1 tbsp baking powder (not baking soda), 1 tbsp Glycerine. Straws and cotton string. If you want folks to practice taking turns or for the teachers to blow the bubbles, make a wand using dowels, binder clips, and a washer.

Snow Doh. Mix 3 cups of baking soda to 1/2 cup hair conditioner. For firmer snow, use less hair conditioner. Add glitter for some exciting shine.

PARACHUTE ACTIVITIES (GREAT CLOSING EVENT)

Parachute. It's easy to gather the class back together with this fun event!

Run-Under. Have kids on opposite sides swap positions by running under the parachute while the class lifts it up. Use as a check-in at the start of class to see who's there or incorporate into your lesson by

naming opposite-side pairs relevant names (You're a dad, you're a mom, you're a sister, you're a dad, you're a mom, you're s sister... Now moms, swap! Now sisters, swap!)

Tent. Lift the parachute up, then everyone steps under it, sits down, and pulls the parachute behind their back tucking it under their bottom. This creates a great bubble of intimate space under the parachute. Great for singing a the rain song or having story time or talking about being under a rainbow.

Cat and Mouse. This one only works with a big parachute and at least 10 or more students. One student is the mouse, who will crawl under the parachute, the other is the cat who will walk on top of the parachute. The class shakes the edges, making billowy bubbles form, making the mouse hard to find. Once the cat taps the mouse on the head, new kids rotate in.

There are enough parachute games to do a different game at the end of every class.

If you have enough adults, close by having the kids lay down in a line (like sardines in a can) and hold hands and gently lift the parachute up and down while singing your goodbye song.