

Learn Through Play 2024

January—toddler



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	
	1 Choose a light, breezy scarf for your child to dance with. Encourage them to wave the scarf through the air to the beat of the music.	2 Make simple puzzles from the covers of holiday cards. Let your child put them back together.	3 Place a handful of cotton balls on the floor and blow the cotton ball "storm" around. Can you make it wild and windy? Gentle and breezy?	4 Create jingle bell shakers by filling small empty water bottles and place 2-3 small bells in each. Screw lids onto bottles and glue or tape for safety.	5 Sing "Jingle Bells" and use your jingle bell shakers. Have your child shake the shakers to the beat of the music.	6 Say this rhyme and mime the actions: "Softly, softly falling so. This is how the snowflakes go. Pitter-patter pitter-patter, pit pit pat. Down go the raindrops on my hat.	
7 Cut a snowflake shape out of cardboard. Put glue all over it and let your child use cotton balls to cover all the glue to make a "fluffy" snowflake.	8 Fill a spray bottle with water and add a few drops of food coloring. Dress your child warmly and take him outside to "paint" the snow with his spray bottle.	9 Count out 10 pretzels with your child, then eat them for a snack.	10 Look through winter magazines or cards for pictures of snowmen. How many did you find?	11 Make snowman or snowflake shaped cookies and let your child help frost them with icing. Eat and enjoy the sweet treat!	12 Have your child use their imagination and build a snowman using blocks. See how big you can make your snowman.	13 Make snowman or snowflake shaped cookies and let your child help frost them with icing. Eat and enjoy the sweet treat!	
14 Enjoy a hot chocolate tea party. Let your child pour the measured cocoa mix and add some warm water. Let them help stir it.	15 Make circle prints. Put some tempera paint on a plate. Use circle lids of different sizes to dip and paint a picture of a snowman.	16 Have your child slide across the floor using paper plates and pretend you are ice skating!	17 Have your child put "snowballs" (cotton balls) in a bucket and take them out. Say "in" and "out" as they do!	18 Use a large cardboard box and make it into a pretend sleigh. Have your child use their gross motor skills to push it around	19 Whip up your favorite pancake recipe. Have your child decorate with blueberries or M&M's and enjoy!	20 Have your child crumble pieces of paper to make snowballs. Then have a pretend snowball fight!	
21 Set up a pretend birthday party using your child's toys. Serve pretend cake, sing "Happy Birthday" and play party games!	22 Put dots on a paper and have your child place a cheerio on each dot. Or use cheerios to string onto a pipe cleaner to make bracelets.	23 Make a pretend igloo out of blankets and chairs. Have your child crawl in an out of the igloo pretending to find shelter in snowstorm.	24 Give your child words for their feelings. "You must be feeling very happy today!" Make happy, sad and mad faces in a mirror together.	25 Cut out pictures from a magazine and glue onto popsicle sticks to make puppets!	26 Use your puppet sticks to tell a story or make the puppets ask your child, "What's your name?" or "What's your favorite color?"	27 Find some different types of hats. Set them out and have your child toss them towards a goal line. Which one was closest?	
28 Have your child look at the pictures on some old holiday/greeting cards and tell a story about them.	29 Count out 10 pretzels with your child, then eat them for a snack.	30 Visit the library and check out books about winter.	31 Read, read, read				

**ACTIVITY:
Ice Cube Bags**

What you will need:
Ice cube tray
Water
Red, yellow, and blue food coloring
3 recloseable plastic bags

Mix water and food coloring together and pour into the ice cube tray. Make enough for two ice cubes of each color. When frozen, place one red and one yellow ice cube into a plastic bag. Then place a red and a blue ice cube into the second plastic bag. Then place a yellow and a blue ice cube into a third plastic bag.

Let your child move the cubes around in the bags and will be amazed by what happens when two colors melt together!

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