

Home-Based Activities



This set of home-based activities provides opportunities for you to engage your child in play and exploration at home. Carrying out the activities and playing the games with your child help to promote family bonding and support your child's learning and development at home.

We encourage you to try as many activities as you would like with your child. We hope you and your child will have an enjoyable time doing these activities!

What can you do with your child?

Racing Word Worms!

Share with your child that you are going to have a "worm race" today. Your child will have fun exploring different ways of moving the worm without touching it. If you have an older/younger child, you can get them to join in too!

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- Recognise and sound out familiar words from Starlight big books
- Practise fine motor skills when cutting with a scissors
- Show perseverance as he/she tries to blow the worm to the finishing line

Materials needed: Strips of paper, straws, scissors, paper, tape, word cards (**Annex A**)

Activity:

- Gather 2 players to make a paper worm each (see <https://youtu.be/Yss3-upCVWM>).
- Choose 10 words from **Annex A** and write them on separate word cards.
- Set up the game like in the picture below using tape to mark the start and end.
- Players will use a straw to blow at the worm.
- The person whose worm reaches the finishing line first will read out the word.
- If read correctly, he/she wins the round and keeps the card.
- Replace the word card at the finishing line and play again.
- The player with more word cards wins!
- *Optional: Make your own list of words to suit your child's needs.*



Spot a Shadow

This activity allows your child to explore how shadows are formed using different objects and sources of light. He/she will also be able to use the shadows to create an artwork by tracing the lines and shapes that are observed.

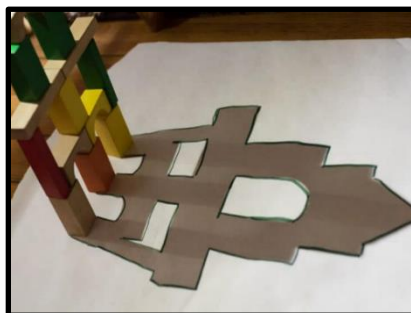
Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Create an artwork by tracing lines and shapes**
- **Explore how shadows are formed**

Materials: Paper, pencil, colour pencils, any source of light (torchlight, sunlight, etc.), objects to create shadows (optional), marker (optional, to outline)

Activity:

- Conduct this activity in the early morning or late afternoon.
- Find a spot in the house where there is a shadow (e.g. by the window, near a lamp).
- Place the paper under the shadow and tape it down.
- Ask your child what lines or shapes from the shadow he/she sees.
- Invite him/her to trace the lines and shapes.
- After tracing, invite your child to colour the artwork.
- *Optional: Invite your child to use a marker to trace new shadows over the completed artwork by shifting the location of the paper or rotating it. Your child can also use objects to create their own shadows.*



Helping Coupons

Children can learn a lot from doing household chores. Doing chores helps children learn about what they need to do to care for themselves and their family. When children contribute to family life, it helps them feel competent and responsible.

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Develop confidence in carrying out simple tasks**
- **Show appreciation and care for others**
- **Communicate through drawing and writing**

Materials: Paper for coupons (**Annex B**), writing and colouring tools.



Activity:

- Invite your child to ask what household chores each family member does.
- Ask your child to create 2 coupons by writing or drawing 1 chore per coupon (**Annex B**).
- Invite your child to give the coupons to his/her family members.
- Family members can choose when they can redeem the coupons.

Plastic Bottle Planter

There are many creative ways to recycle, repurpose, and reuse plastic bottles. Children can make creative planters using plastic bottles and use them to grow beautiful plants. Have fun going green and growing greens!

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Show appreciation and care for nature**
- **Use a variety of materials to create a 3D artwork**

Materials: Plastic bottles, scissors/pen knife, paint, markers, glue, craft materials

Activity:

- Ask your child to collect 2 plastic bottles.
- Help him/her to cut off the top 1/3 of the bottle.
- Let your child explore with the different art tools and materials to decorate his/her planters.
- Once the bottles are ready, your child may use them for the activity “Watch Us Grow”.



Watch Us Grow

Children will plant two types of seeds and make observations. Record these observations and discuss the differences between the two plants.

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Record and share their observations**
- **Show care and responsibility for their plants**
- **Use comparative vocabulary to compare the 2 plants**

Materials: 2 types of seeds (e.g. mung bean, soybean, chilli), transparent containers, soil/cotton wool, water, seeds' growth journal (**Annex C**)

Activity:

- Discuss with your child what seeds can be found at home and grown in Singapore.
- Invite him/her to pick 2 seeds and plant them in separate containers.
- Share with him/her that plants need water, air and sunlight to grow.
- Highlight to your child that he/she will be responsible for watering the plants daily.
- Following the first day, invite your child to observe the changes to the seeds.
- Guide your child to describe the differences using phrases such as “same as”, “taller than”, “shorter than”, “more than” and “less than”. For example:
 - The chilli plant is shorter than the mung bean plant.
 - The soybean plant has more leaves than the mung bean plant.
 - Both plants have the same number of leaves.
- Invite your child to record their daily observations in their journal (**Annex C**).
- *Optional: This activity can be extended throughout the May holidays.*

Sound Detective

Children will identify things with the beginning sounds “br, fl, st and ch”. They can look for pictures with the target sounds and create picture collages for them.

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Identify pictures by their beginning sounds**
- **Use the picture cut-outs to create collages**

Materials: Newspapers/magazines/pamphlets, clue cards (**Annex D**), scissors, glue, writing tools.

Activity:

- Provide your child with old newspapers/magazines/pamphlets.
- Tell your child that he/she will be a sound detective.
- Give your child 1 clue card (**Annex D**).
- Get him/her to find pictures or words that match the sound on the clue card.
- Invite your child to cut out and glue the pictures/words to the clue card.
- Repeat this activity on a different day for a different sound.
- You can refer to the following videos to learn the pronunciation:
br: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXbjSGO99rw>
fl: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bck9A2QawKo>
st: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ec_-b7Cux7w
ch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oc75fe7rbNQ&list=PLLUlgUqVR_0yrBqC8yZhaU8087fMmiEVx

Let's Make 6

The children were introduced to the part-whole relationship of number 5 in our previous Home-Based Activity. This activity helps children to reinforce their understanding on part whole relationship by exploring the different combinations of making "6".

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **To understand part-whole relationship**

Materials: 1 kitchen roll core, 12 rubber bands in two colours (e.g. 6 red and 6 green).

Activity:

- Ask your child to find a partner (e.g. a sibling, yourself).
- Each person will pick 6 rubber bands of the same color.
- Invite your child to choose a number from 0-6.
- He/she will put that number of rubber bands through the kitchen roll core.
- His/her partner will add on his/her rubber band to form the quantity 6.
- Get the pair to check that they have 6 rubber bands around their kitchen roll core.
- To complete the task, they will have to say the following sentences:

→ *There are 6 rubber bands.*

→ _____ *are green.*

→ _____ *are red.*

→ _____ *and* _____ *make 6.*



- *Optional: If your child is playing alone, he/she can form the quantity 6 using rubber bands of 2 different colours.*

Balloon Tennis!

It's time to get the children's bodies moving! The children were introduced to the overhead strike skill in class so get them to practise it at home too!

Through this activity, your child will be able to...

- **Demonstrate control and coordination as they strike a balloon**
- **Take turns with another player**

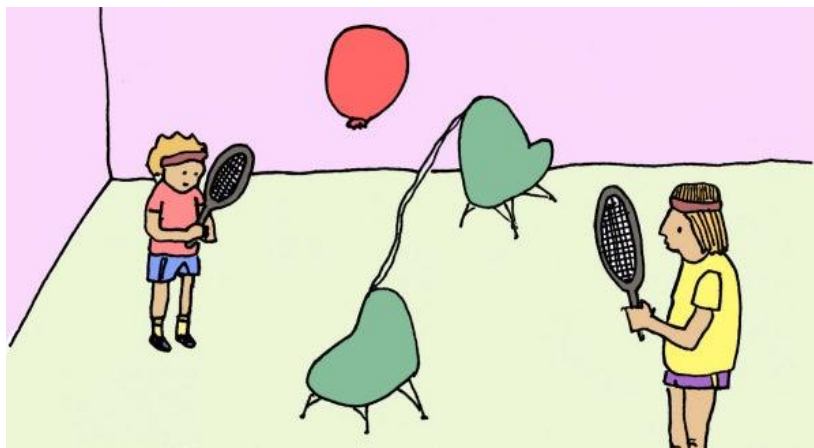
Materials: A balloon, batting equipment (e.g. stick/spatula/paper plate/fly or just a couple of hands), 2 supports that are $\geq 1\text{m}$ high (e.g. back rest of the chair), a long string.

Activity:

- Blow a balloon and assign a play area for your child.
- Place 2 chairs about 1.5m apart and tie a string between them. The string should be $\geq 1\text{m}$ from the ground.
- Toss a balloon to 1 of the players to start the rally.
- The players are to strike the balloon back and forth over the string using the overhead strike steps (see below).
- Start keeping scores to make the game more challenging.

Overhead strike steps:

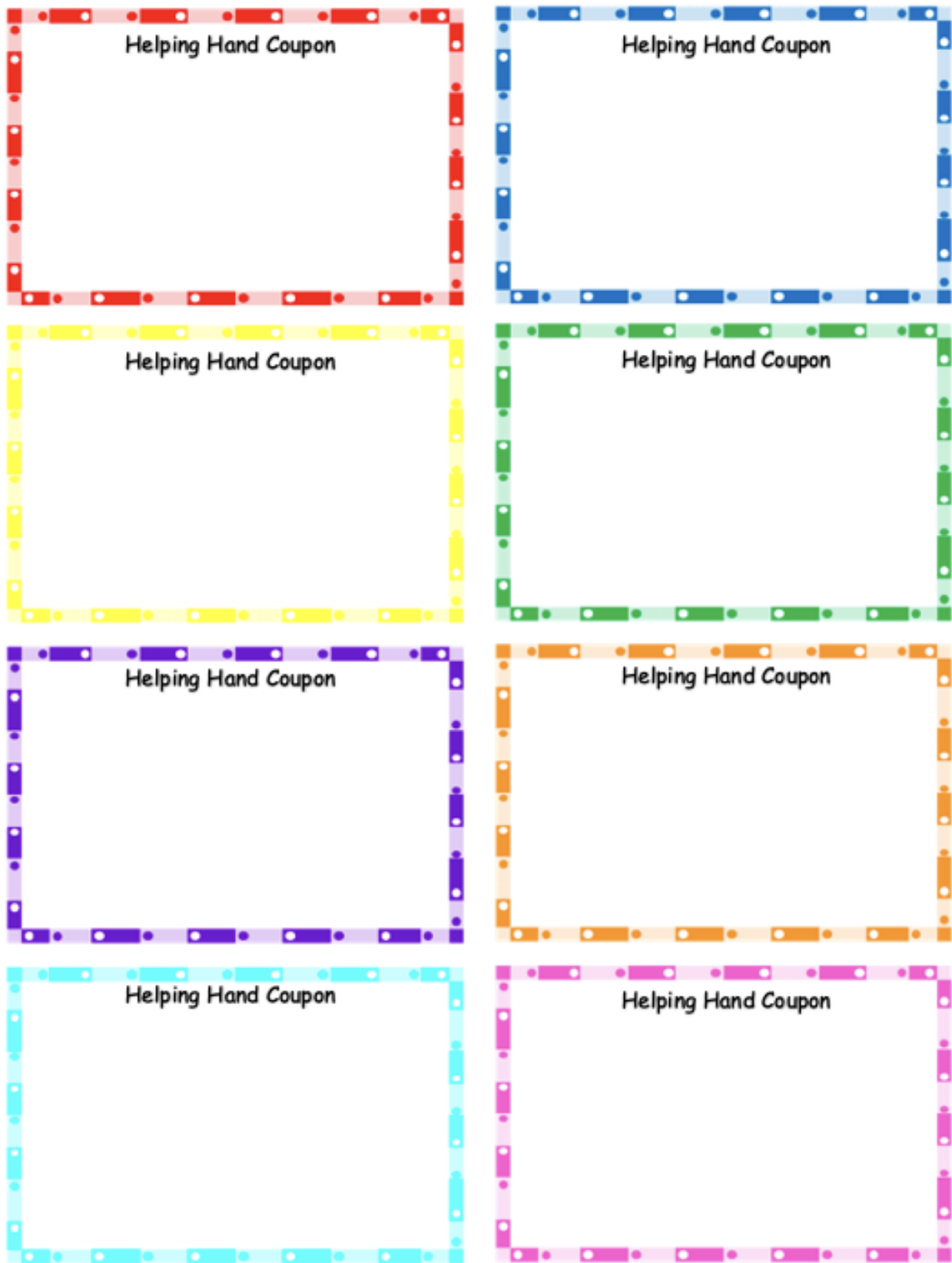
1. Hold the balloon.
2. Toss the balloon upwards.
3. Swing the other hand / batting equipment towards the balloon.
4. Strike the balloon.



Annex A (Racing Word Worms! – Sight Words)

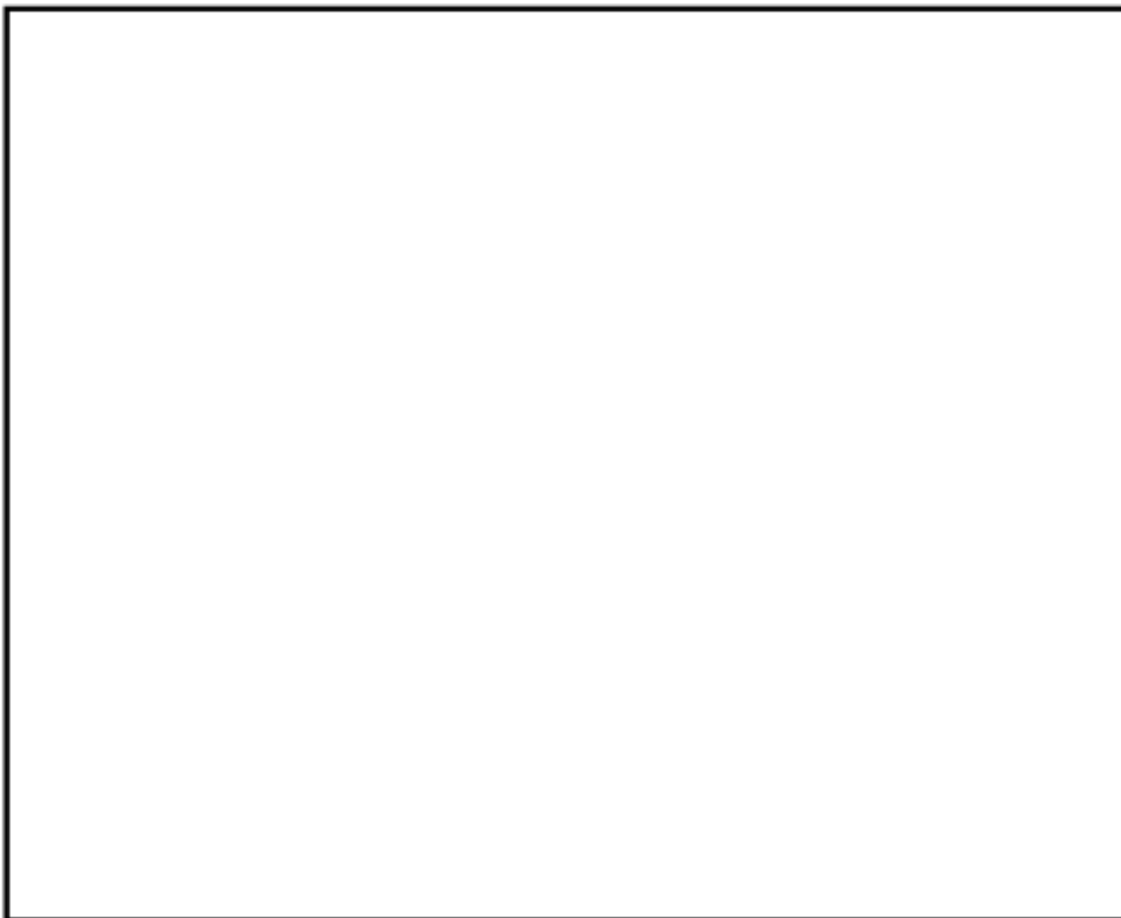
and	be	I
can	me	see
look	my	said
the	you	they
his	her	our
he	she	will

Annex B (Helping Coupons)



My Journal of Seeds' Growth

Date: _____ Day ____ of Observation



Annex D (Sound Detective – Clue Cards)

br



fl



st

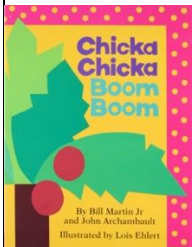

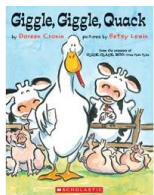


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Suggested Picture Books and Activities

Note: These URL links are accurate at the time of publishing. However, the links may be updated by the websites from time to time. Hence, do access the links first to ensure that the content displayed is as indicated in the table below. Should the links become faulty, you may search for the book titles and videos on search engines. You may also engage your child in listening to audio books by visiting the website: stories.audible.com/discovery.

S/N	Details of Picture Books	Synopsis of Picture Books	Suggested Activities
1	<p>Chicka Chicka Boom Boom</p>  <p>Written By: Bill Martin Jr Book Video Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DG9cSehiXeI</p>	<p><i>How many small letters can fit up the coconut tree? Too many! But the uppercase letters come to the rescue, and everyone is patched up before sundown. The familiar letters--and the pages of this story--come alive in this colourfully illustrated (but, perhaps too abstract) alphabet rhyme.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fast forward the video to pages in the book with rhyming words. Before reading the pages again. Tell your child that he/she needs to listen and spot words that rhyme with a list of words that are not found in the books. 2. Coconut Tree Cookery Before using the ingredients for the cookery, encourage your child to share his/her ideas on the fruits that she will use for the different parts of the coconut. Ingredients: Green apples or kiwi, grapes and biscuits. 
2	<p>Giggle Giggle Quack</p>  <p>Written By: Doreen Cronin Book Video Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kla2sLmb1Ac</p>	<p><i>Farmer Brown is going on a vacation. He asks his brother, Bob, to take care of the animals. "But keep an eye on Duck. He's trouble." Bob follows the instructions in Farmer Brown's notes exactly. He orders pizza with anchovies for the hens, bathes the pigs with bubble bath, and lets the cows choose a movie. Is that giggling he hears?</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After reading the book, ask your child about his/her favorite farm animal/s from the story. Encourage your child to talk about the characteristics that make the animal(s) special. Provide some materials for your child to create an animal stick puppet. 2. Guide your child to use the stick puppets from activity 1 to retell the events in the story. You may provide sentence starters to help your child (e.g. Wednesday is bath day for the.....).

Stay Safe. Stay Home. Stay Curious