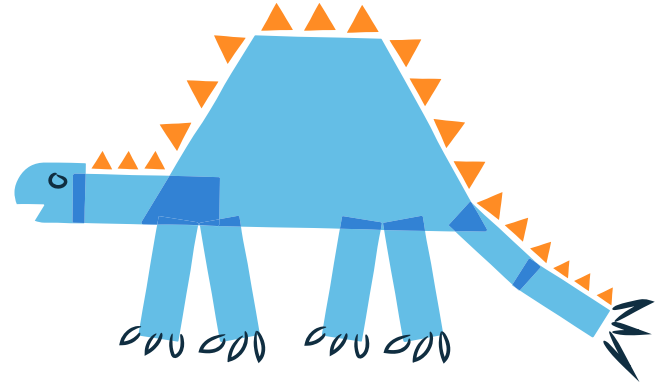


At-Home Summer Guide for Discovery Preschoolers (2 years old)

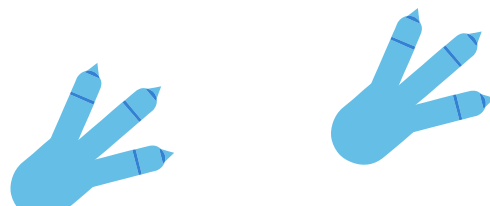
Week of August 3, 2020

This week's guide kicks off a month of **Dinosaurs!** The activities in the guide have been adapted from activities happening in our Discovery Preschool classrooms, but with a twist so you can easily do them at home. Whether you've returned to your center or you're still learning from home, you and your child can use these activities to dig into dinosaurs.

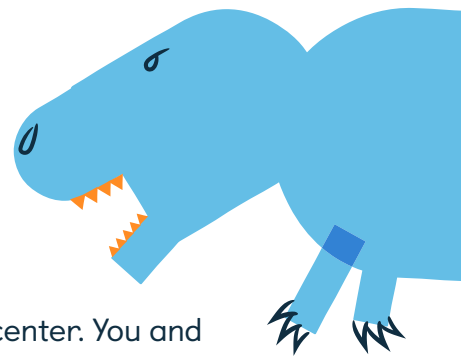


This week introduces your child to the exciting world of dinosaurs! Your child will learn about dinosaurs in a variety of ways: they'll explore **books**, create dinosaur egg **puzzles**, pretend to hatch out of an egg like a baby dinosaur, **move in different ways** along a path of baby dinosaur footprints, and **practice counting backward** in a dinosaur rhyme.

In the coming weeks, your child will learn more about specific dinosaurs and fossils, but if they show interest in a specific dinosaur during this week's introductory activities, don't hesitate to **explore and learn more**. Encourage your child to ask *I wonder* questions and then look for the answers together!



This Week's Theme: Dinosaurs



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 Dinosaurs



Use books to kickoff this month-long exploration of dinosaurs!



LET'S SING

"Hatching Dinosaurs"

Your child pretends to be a baby dinosaur hatching from an egg while you sing.



LET'S CREATE

Dinosaur Egg Puzzles

You and your child work together to create your own dinosaur egg puzzles.



LET'S MOVE

Moving like Baby Dinosaurs

Your child explores moving in different ways as they make their way along a path of little dinosaur footprints!



GAME TIME

On the Move

This game combines the fun of a board game with the energy of a movement game.



LET'S RHYME

"Three Little Dinosaurs"

Count backward from three to none while reciting this rhyme.



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Getting Ready for the Week: Materials to Gather

Books about Dinosaurs:

- Books about dinosaurs, such as, *My Big Dinosaur Book*; *Touch and Feel: Dinosaurs*; *Touch and Feel Baby Dinosaurs*; *Little Kids First Big Book of Dinosaurs*

Dinosaur Egg Puzzles:

- Cardstock (4 sheets, paper will work if cardstock isn't available)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Scissors (for adult use only)

"Hatching Dinosaurs":

- "Hatching Dinosaurs" lyrics

Moving Like Baby Dinosaurs:

- Masking tape
- Paper (5 sheets)
- Scissors (for adult use only)
- Sidewalk chalk (optional)

"Three Little Dinosaurs":

- "Three Little Dinosaurs" lyrics

On the Move:

- [On the Move Game Board](#)
- [On the Move Color Cards](#)
- Game pieces (one for each player)

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



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Let's Read: Books about Dinosaurs

Use books to kickoff this month-long exploration of dinosaurs!



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



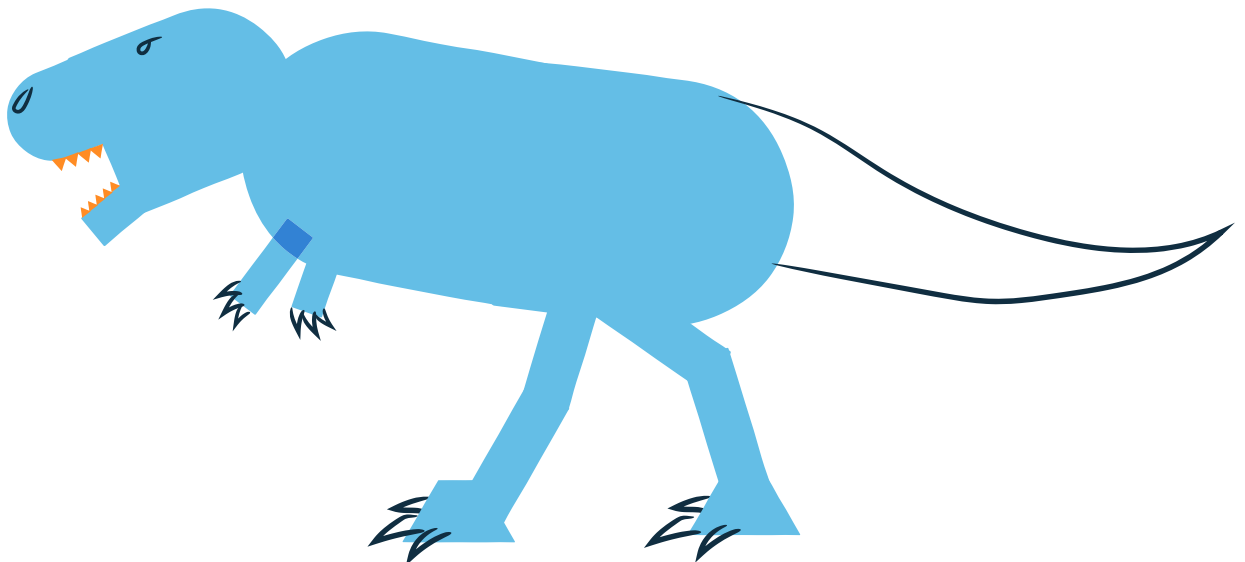
What you need:

- Books about dinosaurs, such as, *My Big Dinosaur Book*; *Touch and Feel: Dinosaurs*; *Touch and Feel Baby Dinosaurs*; *Little Kids First Big Book of Dinosaurs*

What your child is learning:

- An introduction to dinosaurs
- How to make connections between text and illustrations
- The ability to pay attention to text read aloud

What you do: Select a book to read with your child. Begin by looking at the pictures and talking with your child about what they see. Then read the book aloud. If the book you're reading has a lot of text, consider sharing bits of information from the text with your child instead of reading all of it. As you read, ask your child questions and invite them to wonder about the dinosaurs. "This is a very big dinosaur; I wonder how much it eats every day. What do you wonder?"



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Let's Create: Dinosaur Egg Puzzles

You and your child work together to create your own dinosaur egg puzzles.



Length of activity:
20 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:

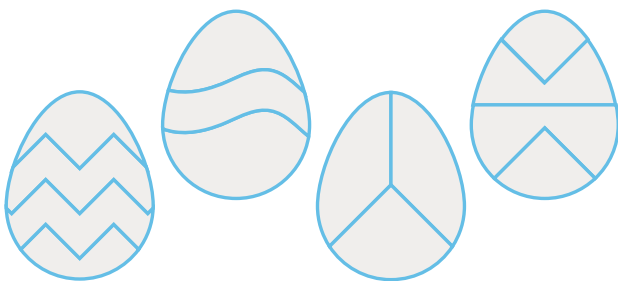
- Cardstock (4 sheets, paper will work if cardstock isn't available)
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Scissors (for adult use only)

What your child is learning:

- Fine motor skills while drawing and coloring
- Hand-eye coordination while putting together the puzzle pieces
- How to take apart an object and put it back together

What you do: Draw a large egg-shaped outline on each sheet of cardstock. Give your child the egg outlines and invite them to draw and color each one, and tell them that when they're finished, you will cut them into puzzles. While your child works, share that baby dinosaurs hatched from eggs. Like birds, dinosaurs built large nests to hold their eggs, and they would stay with their eggs to protect them and keep them safe until they hatched. Then the baby dinosaurs would stay with their parents until they were big enough to feed and protect themselves.

When your child is finished, cut each egg into three or four puzzle pieces, making sure each egg is cut into different shaped pieces. See the examples below for ideas of how to cut the puzzle pieces. Then invite your child to put the pieces together to complete the eggs. While putting the puzzles together, you can recite the following rhyme, and when a puzzle is complete, don't forget to shout, "Woo hoo!"



Dinosaur eggs lined up on a wall.

Dinosaur eggs had a great fall.

Now they're in pieces, so what should we do?

Let's put them back together and shout, "Woo hoo!"



Social and Emotional Learning

Working on puzzles and other challenging tasks is a great way to help your child build self-confidence. Though they may get frustrated or say, "I can't do it," encouraging them to try their best and supporting them as they work their way through the task can help them develop the confidence they need to try new things and to persevere when things are tough.

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Let's Sing: "Hatching Dinosaurs"

Your child pretends to be a baby dinosaur hatching from an egg while you sing.



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:

- "Hatching Dinosaurs" lyrics (below)

What your child is learning:

- How to add creative movement to song
- How to recall information from prior experiences and relate it to current experiences

What you do: Familiarize yourself with the words and movements to "Hatching Dinosaurs." Tell your child that you're going to sing a song about baby dinosaurs hatching from eggs, and while you sing, they can pretend to be a hatching a baby dinosaur. Sing the song and perform the movements. Then repeat the song a few more times, and as your child becomes familiar with the words and movements, invite them to sing and move along.

"Hatching Dinosaurs"

(sung to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

We are baby dinosaurs, dinosaurs, dinosaurs.

(scrunch down and curl up as tightly as you can)

We are baby dinosaurs, resting in our eggs.

We are hatching from our eggs, from our eggs, from our eggs.

(move arms and legs slowly as if breaking out of an egg)

We are hatching from our eggs, watch as we break out.

(stand up suddenly and stretch arms and legs)



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Let's Move: Moving like Baby Dinosaurs

Your child explores moving in different ways along a path of little dinosaur footprints!



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: High



What you need:

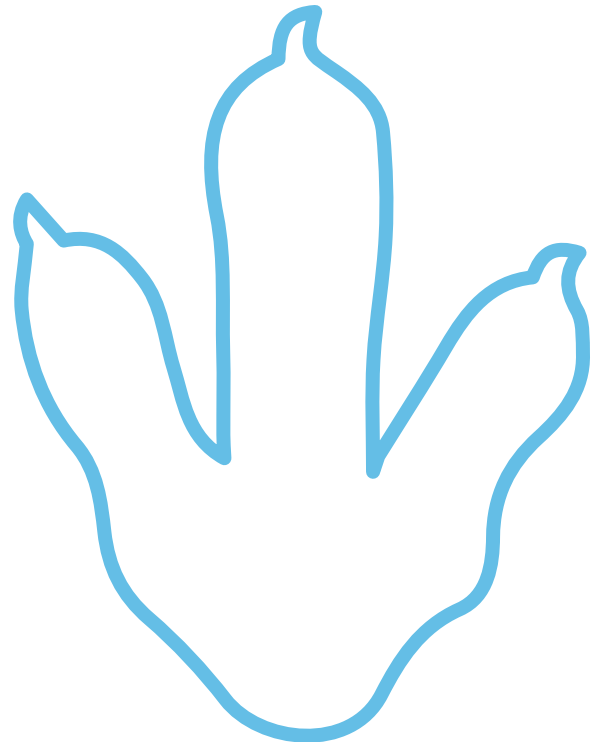
- Masking tape
- Paper (5 sheets)
- Scissors (for adult use only)
- Sidewalk chalk (optional)

What your child is learning:

- How to maintain balance while making big movements
- How their body can move in different ways

What you do: Fold each sheet of paper in half lengthwise and then again widthwise. With the paper folded, draw the outline of a dinosaur footprint (*see example, right*) that takes up most of the space. Cut out the outline to create four individual footprints. Repeat this process for the remaining sheets of paper to create 20 individual footprints. Tape the footprints to the floor approximately one foot apart, creating a path around the available space. If you have a usable outdoor space, you can draw the dinosaur footprints on the ground using sidewalk chalk instead of paper and tape.

Show your child the path you've created and explain that these footprints are similar to some of the footprints made by baby dinosaurs. Have your child stand on the first footprint and ask them to walk along the path by taking large steps from one footprint to the next then bringing both feet together on a footprint before stepping to the next. If needed, model this movement for them. Then have them return to the beginning of the path and explore other ways to move along the path, such as jumping, leaping, or taking large steps and only putting one foot on each footprint.



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Let's Rhyme: "Three Little Dinosaurs"

Count backward from three to none while reciting this rhyme.



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



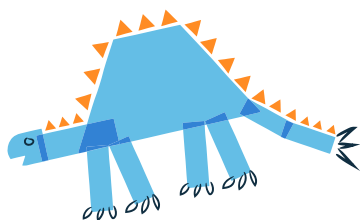
What you need:

- "Three Little Dinosaurs" lyrics (below)

What your child is learning:

- How to add creative movement to song
- How to recall information from prior experiences and relate it to current experiences
- A beginning understanding of counting backward

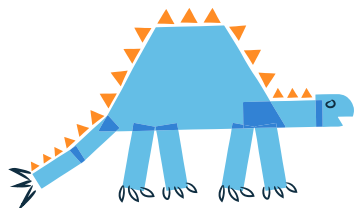
What you do: Familiarize yourself with the words and movements to "Three Little Dinosaurs." Tell your child you're going to say a rhyme about dinosaurs, starting with three dinosaurs and counting down until there are none. Share that you're also going to do movements that go along with the words of the song. Sing the song and perform the movements. Then repeat the song a few more times and as your child becomes familiar with the words and movements, invite them to sing and perform the movements with you.



"Three Little Dinosaurs"

Three little dinosaurs, wondering what to do.
(hold up two fingers on your right hand and one on your left hand)

One ran off and then there were two.
(wiggle finger on left hand and move away from others)

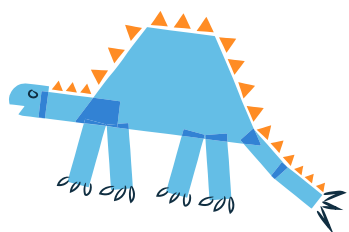


Two little dinosaurs, standing in the sun.
(hold up one finger on each hand)

One ran off and then there was one.
(wiggle finger on left hand move away from right)

One little dinosaur, looking for someone.
(hold up one finger on your left hand)

She ran off and then there were none.
(wiggle finger and move away)



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Game Time: On the Move

This game combines the fun of a board game with the energy of a movement game.

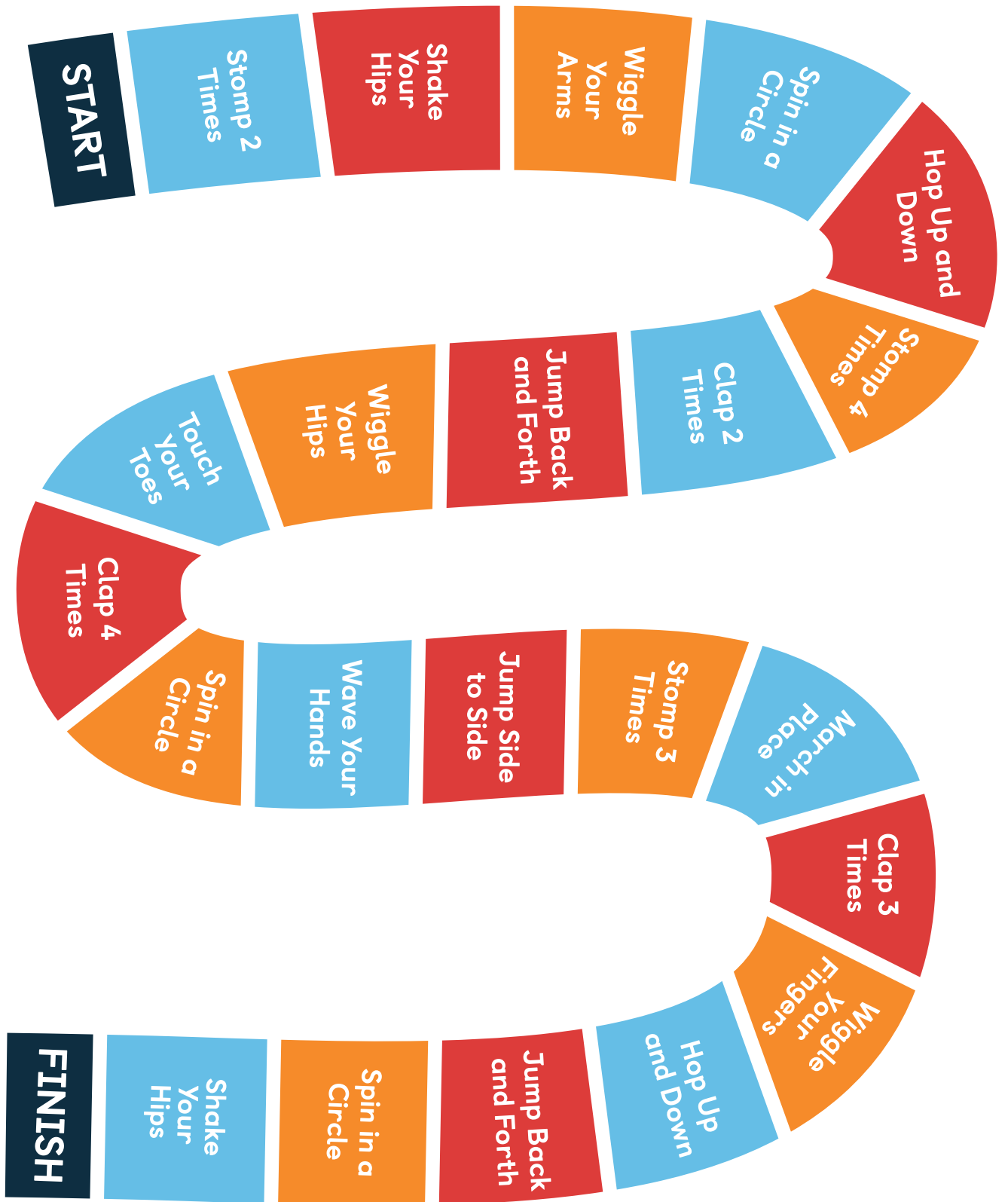
Before playing, you'll need to print one copy of the [game board](#) and one copy of the [color cards](#). Cut out the color cards and place them in a stack face down. If you're unable to print, you can draw your own game board and create your own color cards using paper and coloring materials. You'll also need one game piece for each player, such as a small toy, crayon, or a game piece from a board game.

To play, all players place their game pieces at *Start*. The first player turns over the top card in the stack and names the color on the card. Assist your child as needed in naming the color. The player then moves their game piece to the next space of that color on the game board and performs the action on the space. Then the next player does the same. Play continues until all players have reached *Finish*. Depending on the number of players, you may need to shuffle the color cards during the game to have enough for each player to reach *Finish*.

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On the Move Game Board



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Week of August 3, 2020

On the Move Color Cards

