

# May/June Infant Activities for (Birth to 12 Months)

## Mama Wrasse



**Social-Emotional  
Support**

Daily hygiene routines can be a positive social emotional experience for a baby if you make it fun. Like the Hawaiian Cleaner Wrasse that helps to keep other fish healthy, pretend to be a mama wrasse and clean your baby's gums. You don't need to wait for teeth to show before starting an oral hygiene routine. Wipe your baby's gums everyday by using gauze or a soft wet washcloth. This can be done at any time throughout the day, but do it around the same time each day. Your baby will recognize this activity as a fun part of his/her daily routine.

## Something Fishy...



**Cognitive  
Development**

Babies are born with a natural curiosity to figure out how things work. The more curious your baby is the more he/she learns. Try playing games such as "peek-a-boo" or splashing baby's bath water to make a toy bob up and down. This will get your baby curious to see what will happen next. Also play with toys that your baby can "restart" when it stops, for example a music box or a wind-up toy. Nurturing your infant's curiosity is one of the most important ways that you can help him/her become a life long learner.

## Under The Sea Umbrella



**Playful  
Parenting**

Create an under the sea umbrella for some sensory fun! Open an umbrella and decorate it with sensory items for baby to enjoy while at the beach or at home. Attach different materials such as blue & green tulle or ribbons for calming. Add different items such as plastic ocean toys or different grids of sand paper for sensory exploration. For an under the sea experience cut out fish shapes using the different grids of sandpaper. As your baby begins to reach for the objects on the umbrella, this is helping him/her to develop eye-hand coordination.

# May/June Toddler Activities for (12-24 Months)

## Don't Be Shellfish!



**Social-Emotional  
Support**

Sharing is a learned behavior as keiki's social, emotional and cognitive development progresses. You can model sharing with keiki by passing an object back and forth while saying "my turn, your turn". Learning how to take turns is the first step in sharing. Next, arrange a playdate and use a timer for keiki and a peer to swap sharing toys for fun! Don't forget to praise keiki when he/she does share. Try saying, "I saw your friend was happy when you shared your toy with him" or "I see you are happy when your friend shared her toy with you".

## Ocean Scene



**Cognitive  
Development**

Create a foil painting with keiki for some conversation fun! Tape a large piece of aluminum foil onto the same sized cardboard. Squeeze blue & white paint onto the foil. Have keiki swirl the paint around using their finger tip. Cut out different ocean animals shapes using old magazines. Allow keiki to glue or tape the ocean animals to their dried painted ocean scene. Sit together & have keiki tell you a story about his/her painting. Ask questions & give keiki time to answer. Talking with keiki and conducting conversations assists keiki in learning to speak, listen and understand how words are used to communicate.

## 1-2-3-4-5 Let's Re-apply!



**Playful  
Parenting**

Keiki who are not protected by the sun's UV rays have a higher chance of getting skin cancer later in life. While outdoors or at the beach remember the importance of reapplying sunscreen. Look for a sunscreen that is SPF 30 and safe for our coral reefs such as Reef Repair Sun Cream or Coral Safe. Make sun-protection fun by using a timer set for 2 hrs after each application. When the timer goes off, say "1-2-3-4-5 let's re-apply" together while re-applying sunscreen. Adopting a sunscreen habit is practicing smart sun-protection!

# May/ June Preschooler Activities for (24-48 Months)

## Pout-Pout Fish



**Social-Emotional Support**

Keiki who learn how to understand emotions in themselves & others are better able to self regulate & solve problems. Keiki this age may not have the vocabulary to identify their feelings such as angry, or frustrated. They may not have the skills to “read” facial cues & interpret body language. Teach keiki about their emotions by reading stories such as “Pout- Pout Fish”. While reading point out the characters different facial expressions and body language you see throughout the book. You can support your keiki’s social-emotional development when you label and talk about emotions using books & though daily interactions with people.

## Reef Fizz....



**Cognitive Development**

Explore the beautiful colorful coral reefs with your keiki with some fizz art fun! Pour 1 box baking soda in a small pan and shake gently so that baking soda is evenly spread out. Using 3-4 small bowls, pour 1/2 cup of vinegar in each bowl. Squeeze about 6 drops of food coloring or extra Easter egg dye in each bowl of vinegar and stir well. Fill a dropper with colored vinegar, squeeze it onto the baking soda, and watch your reef fizz! As keiki begin to mix colors ask keiki, “What color do you think this will be?” Asking questions helps keiki to further explore & then identify a possible Solutions to the questions being asked.

## Sand Slime



**Playful Parenting**

With only two ingredients plus sand to make this slime you can easily whip this up at home for a great bonding activity. Begin by combining 4 oz of play sand & 8 oz glue (white or clear) in a sand bucket. Slowly add 4-8oz of liquid starch to the bucket. Then, add more starch & mix until the desired consistency is reached. Once the slime is formed remove it from the bucket and knead with clean dry hands. At first your sand slime will be sticky and gooey. After mixing it a few times, it will begin to form. Making slime together shows keiki that you are interested in what they like to do for fun!