



HELLO PARENTS,

Children are natural scientists; they observe and interact with the world around them, ask questions, make connections, predict, test, form theories, solve problems, and come to conclusions. As they explore what interests them, they learn how to stay focused and organized, and enhance their language and communication skills. It is easy to incorporate simple science concepts into fun experiments, and art and sensory activities, which you can do with your children. In this newsletter, you will learn about hands-on science activities that encourage learning science in a fun way.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

SEEING STARS

MATERIALS:

- Hole punch
- White envelope
- Piece of paper, smaller than the white envelope
- Flashlight

DIRECTIONS:

- Punch several holes in the paper.
- Place the paper in the envelope.
- Hold the envelope out in front of you with the flashlight behind it.
- With your baby, observe the "stars" you created with the hole punch.
- Allow your baby to hold the flashlight and experiment.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

PAINTING WITH WATER

MATERIALS:

- A bucket of water
- A thick paint brush

DIRECTIONS:

- Get the materials ready outside on a sidewalk or near a wooden fence.
- Encourage your child to dip the brush in the water and start painting.
- Discover with your child how the water evaporates and disappears.
- Repeat and have fun!

[Click here](#) for more science activities.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

COLOUR MIXING ERUPTIONS

MATERIALS:

- Different plastic containers · Baking soda
- Vinegar · Dish soap
- Watercolour paint or food colouring · Newspapers

DIRECTIONS:

- Spread newspapers on floor or counter where you will do the experiment.
- Add the watercolour paint or food colouring to the vinegar.
- Mix the baking soda with the dish soap.
- Pour the coloured vinegar into the baking soda.
- Ask your child what they expected would happen.

[Click here](#) for more science activities.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

THE MAGIC OF SLIME

MATERIALS:

- Body wash liquid · Cornstarch · A big bowl
- A big spoon or fork · Water

DIRECTIONS:

- Gather all materials together with your child and place them on the table.
- Let your child pour a small amount of body wash liquid in the big bowl.
- Add the same amount of cornstarch as body wash liquid in the big bowl.
- Mix ingredients together using a spoon.
- When the ingredients are mixed, take the slime out and knead it with your hands.
- Optional: add water to make the slime more stretchy.
- Store your slime in an airtight container for later usage.

[Click here](#) for more science activities.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

GROWING SALT CRYSTALS

MATERIALS:

- Construction paper · Water · Salt
- Container and spoon · Baking tray · Scissors, pencil
- Hole punch and string (optional) · Magnifying glass (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

- Start by making as many cut outs from construction paper as you would like (try different shapes: circles, diamonds, triangles, hearts, etc.).
- Punch holes in the top of each shape if you plan to use them as ornaments.
- Lay the shapes as flat as possible on a baking tray.
- With the help of an adult, boil 2 cups of water.
- Carefully, add the salt to the water, one tablespoon at a time, stirring very well until completely dissolved. When you cannot dissolve any more salt, you have created a saturated solution (a mixture that cannot hold any more particles).
- Move your tray to a location where it can stay undisturbed.
- Pour the salt mixture over the shapes, covering them with a thin layer of the solution and leave for 2-3 days.
- Check on the shapes every day.
- Once the water has evaporated, they are ready.
- Add a string if you would like to use them as ornaments
- Examine the crystals with a magnifying glass.

[Click here](#) for more science activities.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!
PLEASE, SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK, COMMENTS OR
SUGGESTIONS TO CHILDCAREMAIN@NCCE1.ORG

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage your child to question their surroundings and discuss it.
- Discuss science-based topics daily and make it fun, such as baking together.
- Invest in a few pieces of equipment, such as magnetic tiles, astronomy kits, and kitchen science experiments if your child is interested in learning more.