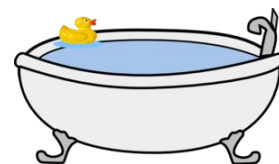




5 Bathtime Activities to do with Full Sentences Children



#1: Bathtime

Activity: Challenge your child to help you “remember” the bathtime routine. Start out by narrating what you’re doing: “Ok, we took off your clothes and grabbed your toys, what should we do next?” If they suggest doing something out of order (e.g. getting in the bath before there’s water), go with it playfully (e.g. help them in and say “hmmm, something is missing here, do you know what we need next?”).

#2: Mirror Games

Activity: Put some shaving cream on the bathroom mirror and show your child how to draw in it. You could try drawing shapes, animals, cars, happy faces, or more. Ask “what did you draw?”

#3: Toilet Paper Tubes

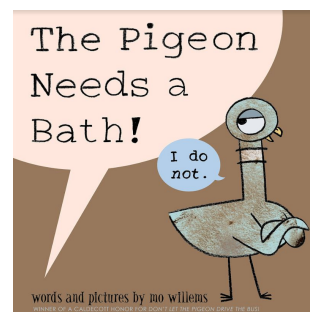
Activity: Turn your TP tube into a musical instrument. Use very strong tape, such as duct tape, to seal one end, place a few dry beans inside, and seal the other end. Have your child help with all steps of the craft. Focus on wh-questions while crafting, and try to use different types of questions rather than just “what” questions - “where should we put this sticker?”, “who will put the tape on?”, “what color do you want?” (offer 2-3 choices).

#4: Toothbrushing

Activity: Help your child learn basic sequencing by talking about the steps of toothbrushing: “First, we put the toothpaste on, then we brush all our teeth, and last, we rinse.” Try doing the sequence in a silly order or adding a step that doesn’t make sense, and see if your child notices.

#5: Bathtime Reading Corner

Activity: Read [The Pigeon Needs a Bath!](#). This is one of those excellent books that can grow with your child. Start by summarizing the story and making a few comments about the pictures. As their attention increases, you can read more and more of the dialogue (there’s a lot in this book!). Once you read the story once or twice, see if they can make up what pigeon is saying (e.g. “The pigeon touched the bath water...what do you think he’ll say about it?”).



The SpeakEasy Sandbox is a newsletter that provides caregivers the necessary tools to boost their child’s language development through play. Learn more at www.speakeasycommunity.com.



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5 Springtime Activities to do with Full Sentences Children



#1: Springtime Walks

Activity: Go on a walk with your child. Can you pretend to be some of the springtime objects you see? "If I were a flower, I would walk like this" (maybe stand on tiptoes with your arms over your head). What would a bee walk like? How about a cloud?

#2: Egg Hunt

Activity: Play a version of Simon Says with your eggs. Hide your eggs around the room or outside, then give your child several directions to follow to find them. You can make them both related (easier) and unrelated (harder) to the egg hunting task (e.g. "Simon says touch your nose, jump 3 times, then look behind the tree"). You and your child can take turns giving directions to each other. See how many actions they can remember at a time, up to 3-4.

#3: Tissue Paper Crafts

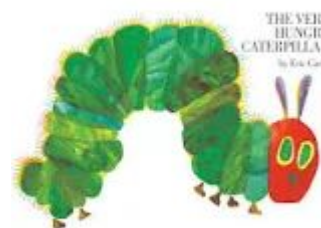
Activity: Add color words to your phrases as you make a tissue paper flower. Print a spring-themed coloring outline [like this flower](#) ahead of time, or you can use a plain piece of white paper. Rip and stick pieces of colorful tissue paper on together. Focus on modeling color+paper together (e.g. "blue paper", "red paper", "green paper"). Then offer your child a choice ("do you want blue paper or green paper?").

#4: Rainy Day Games

Activity: Explore imaginative play on a rainy day by opening up a mud pie shop. Scoop mud into tins, decorate with items you find outside such as leaves, grass, and petals, place in your pretend oven, and "eat." Expand by setting up a pie shop, placing orders, and exchanging rocks as pretend money to pay for your pies.

#5: Springtime Reading Corner

Activity: Read [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#). Help your child with past tense and sequencing by retelling the story together. After reading, start with an open ended question such as "can you tell me the story of the caterpillar?" Then, help your child as needed to fill in the details (e.g. "He started as an egg, do you remember what happened next?").



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