

Learning can happen anywhere. Interactive and hands-on learning is the best way for anyone to learn, especially our kiddos.

The following pages provide a schedule of ways to have fun learning. Each day has its own “theme” and a few suggestions to go with it. This way, you don’t have to feel overwhelmed that you have to do it all every day. Perhaps you need a little help to organize yourself and your to-do list. Maybe you need a reminder to slow yourself down from the hectic reality of our lives and spend a little time embedding a little learning into our schedule and routines.

Following the “schedule”, you will see some listed benefits of each area.

Following that, you will find a more formally guided activity.

You are encouraged to complete an activity (your own and/or the guided activity) and share your results with us. Take a photo, a video, and/or write a journal entry with your child’s dictated words.

**Interactive activities:** \* are a fun way for kids to play & learn. \*physical activities promote fitness & health. \*games & puzzles aid in skill development. \*collaborative activities improve social skills & tighten bonds. \*cooperative games teach essential life lessons.

<https://www.journalbuddies.com/having-fun/benefits-of-interactive-activities/>

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M

*Make it Monday:*

craft, play dough, Legos,  
blocks, fort...

T

*Take a Trip Tuesday:*

virtual museum, bike ride,  
walk...

W

*What's Cooking  
Wednesday:*

Make something to eat.

TH

*Thinking Thursday:*

science experiment,  
cooperative activity, puzzle...

F

*Fun Friday:*

Pick a fun favorite activity.

**Creativity:** \*is multi-disciplinary. \* allows you to express yourself. \*promotes thinking & problem solving. \*reduces stress and anxiety. \*allows you to enter your happy zone & have fun. \*gives you a sense of purpose. \*can lead to feelings of accomplishment & pride. \*improves your ability to focus. \*promotes risk taking. \*is a prerequisite for innovation. \*encourages us to be lifelong learners.


**A trip:** improves social & communication skills. \*ensures peace of mind. \*helps you gain original & creative thoughts. \*broadens your horizons. \*enhances your tolerance for uncertainty. \*boosts your confidence. \*gets you real-life education. \*creates memories. \*helps you have fun.

**Cooking:** \*strengthens a child's fine motor skills. \*develops basic understanding of math concepts. \*develops the concept of sequencing. \*expands vocabulary. \*develops reading skills. \*introduces scientific concepts. \*develops an adventurous & diverse taste palette. \*engages our senses. \*increases focus & attention. \*teaches life skills. \*promotes healthy eating. \*boosts self-confidence. \*encourages family bonding.

**Critical Thinking:** \*encourages curiosity. \*enhances creativity. \*reinforces problem solving ability. \*Promotes: reasoning skills, analytical thinking, evaluative skills, logical thinking, organizational & planning skills, language skills, self-reflection, observational skills, open-mindedness, visualization techniques, questioning ability, and decision making. \*develops independence. \*is a lifelong skill.

**Having fun:** \*reduces stress. \*improves our ability to cope. \*boosts energy. \*improves memory & concentration. \*improves our connections with others. \*improves sounder sleep.

*Guided Activity:*



**Title: EARTH Cookies!! Celebrate Earth Day with a special snack!!!**

**Materials:** you will your favorite sugar cookie mix or your family's favorite recipe ingredients, blue and green food coloring.

Recipe link: <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/9870/easy-sugar-cookies/>

**What to do:**

Make your sugar cookie dough. Split it in half. Using several drops of **blue** food coloring color half **blue**. Using several drops of **green** food coloring color the other half **green**. Now take a little bit of each color and combine them until they look like planet EARTH! Bake according to your recipe's directions.

**Extension: Have an Earth Day Party with your cookies as a snack!**

[https://hdm-streaming-otfp.hearst.io/manual\\_upload/59021d2ebbddbd5d519ff33d/mp4/Earth\\_Day\\_Cookies\\_FINAL\\_FULL\\_1493310779\\_300\\_sd,Earth\\_Day\\_Cookies\\_FINAL\\_FULL\\_1493310779\\_1000\\_sd,Earth\\_Day\\_Cookies\\_FINAL\\_FULL\\_1493310779\\_1700\\_hd,Earth\\_Day\\_Cookies\\_FINAL\\_FULL\\_1493310779\\_4000\\_hd\\_v3/master.m3u8](https://hdm-streaming-otfp.hearst.io/manual_upload/59021d2ebbddbd5d519ff33d/mp4/Earth_Day_Cookies_FINAL_FULL_1493310779_300_sd,Earth_Day_Cookies_FINAL_FULL_1493310779_1000_sd,Earth_Day_Cookies_FINAL_FULL_1493310779_1700_hd,Earth_Day_Cookies_FINAL_FULL_1493310779_4000_hd_v3/master.m3u8)

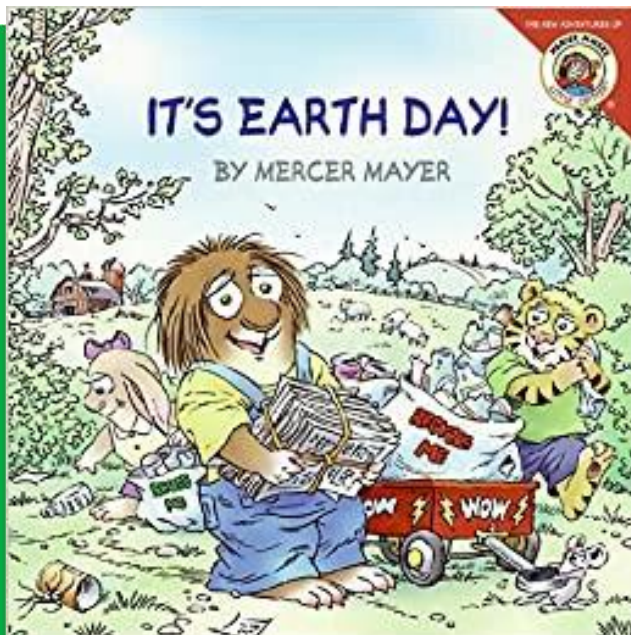
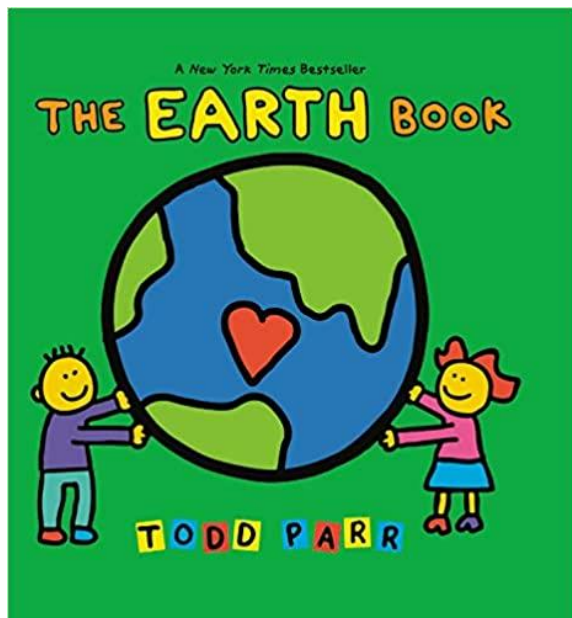
**ISBE Learning Standards:**

12.C.ECa identify, describe, and compare the physical properties of objects.

12.C.ECb experiment with changes in matter when combined with other substances.

7.C.ECa With teacher/parent assistance, explore use of measuring tools that use standard units to measure objects and quantities that are meaningful to the child.

## Recommended Reading:



If you do not already own these books, you can find them digitally online at your library, Hoopla, or You Tube.

*Title:* The Earth Book by Todd Parr. <https://youtu.be/lpEc5nHgO2c>

*\*\*\*Now is a great time to be exploring more cooking activities with your child. Here is a great link for some easy cooking activities. Enjoy!*

<https://www.prekinders.com/kid-recipes/>

