

Life Science



Life science is a vast subject and there is something new to learn at each age. It is a subject that introduces kids to a wide range of concepts including genetics, cell biology, viruses and bacteria, organisms, ecology, energy, survival and much more. As children grow and move from one age group/classroom to the other, they are introduced to more complex life science concepts. Don't let this dissuade the younger learners from showing enthusiasm for the subject!

Why is preschool science important?

Preschoolers are naturally curious. They want to know how things work and why things happen. Science activities allow opportunities for preschoolers to explore, discover how things work and ask questions!



The goal of science activities at the preschool age is not to memorize facts but rather how to **gain knowledge through observations, experimentation, and play!**

Science is about connecting children's senses to the world around them. As educators, we must spark this curiosity and sense of wonder especially when they are young so they continue to ask questions as they grow older. One easy way to foster a sense of wonder and incorporate the five senses is through open sensory play.



Egg-citing Art

Using natural items, you can dye hardboiled eggs. Eggs come in white, crème, brown, and even green in nature. You can discuss this and then using pale crème or white eggs you can dye them with spices and plants.

- Hard boiled eggs
- 1 cup of water +
 - 2 tablespoons turmeric = yellow
 - 1 cup chopped purple cabbage = blue
 - 1 cup red onion skins = red – lavender
 - 1 cup shredded beets = pink
 - 1 cup yellow onion skins = orange
- Add 1 tablespoon white vinegar to every cup of dye liquid
- ❖ For every dozen eggs plan on using at least 4 cups of dye liquid*



Too add on more life science you can do the life cycle of a chick. There are books and posters you can add to your science area to help children learn where chicks come from. You can help them learn that different colored eggs result in different colored chicks. (Not every chicken chick is yellow despite them being the most commonly shown ones)



Going on a Bug Hunt!

To set this activity up you can use a free printable worksheet or pass out photos you took earlier of insects in your area.

Give the children science tools to use like a magnifying glass to be able to see the details of the creatures better.

This activity can be extended by setting up a bug habitat and bringing your new friend indoors for observations.

Make sure to allow time for your reflection too.

- How did the activity go?
- What would you do differently next time?
- What other activities connect their interest and will help stretch their thinking?
- Taking the time to reflect after the science activity will help make it go smoother the next time.

So, how can we encourage young children to ask good questions and be curious?

In your curriculum include a variety of science activities that encourage children to wonder, to be curious, to ask questions and learn through play!