

July's playful learning Checklist

- 1.** Give your child red, yellow and blue paint. Then ask her to mix different combinations and see what color results. For instance, red and blue make purple.
- 2.** Help your child learn that pennies are worth one cent. Give her a pile and show her how to count them one-by-one to find a total. Take a few pennies away and ask her to count them again.
- 3.** Write your child's name on a piece of paper. Explain that the first letter of her name is very special and should always be capitalized. The other letters will be lowercase. Then work together to write a list of friends' and family members' names, pointing out each of the special first letters in each.
- 4.** Have your child dictate an email message to a far away friend or family member.
- 5.** Read the book "Not a Box" by Antoinette Portis. Then, give your child tape and a pile of clean recyclables including paper towel rolls, scraps of cardboard and plastic containers. Encourage her to use the recyclables to create robots, boats... the sky's the limit!
- 6.** {July} begins with the letter {J}. Help your child hunt through a book to find all of the Js. Each time she finds one, write a tally mark on a piece of paper. When you are finished, help her count the tally marks to find the total.
- 7.** Fold a blank piece of paper in half. Ask your child to paint a design on one side of the paper using tempera paint. Then fold the paper together, pressing the painted side against the blank side. Unfold the paper to reveal that a mirror image of her design has appeared. Talk about how the two images are the same and different.
- 8.** Give your child a pile of foods from your kitchen and help her sort them into two categories: strong foods {healthy foods} and weak foods {unhealthy foods}. Explain that strong foods like vegetables help her feel good and grow stronger. Weak foods can be eaten every once in awhile.
- 9.** Explain that one minute is the same as 60 seconds. Help your child learn how long a minute lasts by having her jump in place for one minute, then read a book for one minute, sing for one minute...
- 10.** Look at a calendar and point out that Saturdays and Sundays are called {the weekend}. Use a highlighter to color in all of the weekends in July.