

Ball Skills FUN for the Whole Family



Here is an inexpensive toy to incorporate gross motor activities into your daily routine. You can use either rubber or plastic kick balls found at the grocery store, drugstore or dollar store. The plastic kick balls may be a little bit easier for your child to control. Try out these FUN ball skills!

- Rolling the ball back and forth - start in a sitting position and progress to tall kneeling position
- Throw and catch from 5 feet away - emphasize looking at the ball and using 1 hand to throw and 2 hands to catch
- Bouncing to the other person instead of throwing
- Dribbling while standing in place
- Kick a stationary ball
- Kick a rolled ball

Joint Attention Skills and the Child with Autism

By Julie A. Daymut, M.A., CCC-SLP

This article is relevant for everyone.

Joint attention is the ability to share a common focus on something (people, objects, a concept, an event, etc.) with someone else. It involves the ability to gain, maintain, and shift attention. Joint attention serves as a referencing tool that uses mutual gaze (visually focusing on the same thing) and/or gesture for communication. Overall, sharing a focus not only helps individuals communicate, but it helps develop important social skills such as bonding and seeing another's point of view. Joint attention skills can be a predictor of future language development.

Several skills are important for joint attention. Not only do these skills help an individual to get his/her wants and needs met, but they are necessary for appropriate interactions and developing meaningful relationships. These skills are:

- Orienting and attending to a social partner
- Shifting gaze between people and objects
- Sharing emotional states with another person
- Following the gaze and point of another person
- Being able to draw another person's attention to objects or events for the purpose of sharing experiences.

Read the Full Article

http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/196_JoinAttentionandASD.pdf

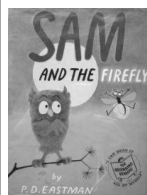
http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/196_Spanish.pdf



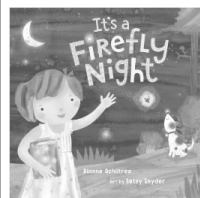
Help your Child's Imagination Take FLIGHT! READ A BOOK!

Visit your local Library to find these
and other books about

Fireflies



Sam and the Firefly by P.D. Eastman. Sam the Owl and Gus the Firefly literally light up the sky in this classic book edited by Dr. Seuss. In Sam and the Firefly, P. D. Eastman introduces us to the dynamic duo of Sam and Gus, who soar through the air writing words in the night sky. But when Gus's words end up causing confusion and chaos for the people on the ground, it's up to Sam to help Gus "write" his wrongs.



It's a Firefly Night by Dianne Ochiltree. Part glittery counting book, part endearing daddy-daughter story! A favorite childhood activity - catching fireflies - glows from the pages of this story, plus counting. Lilted rhymes chronicle a little girl's capture and release of fireflies, one by one, capped off by a collection of fascinating firefly facts.



The Very Lonely Firefly by Eric Carle. When a very lonely firefly goes out into the night searching for other fireflies, it sees a lantern, a candle, and the eyes of a dog, cat, and owl all glowing in the darkness. It even sees a surprise celebration of light. But it is not until it discovers other fireflies that it finds exactly what it's looking for. Read it with a flashlight in the dark or under the table - and watch those fireflies glow!

Follow along here: <https://youtu.be/pQjhsslpAHO>

Get Out There and LEARN!

Here are some FUN activities that will also reinforce many different skills.

- When finished with newspapers or magazines - work together on tearing the paper into pieces - crumple the paper and practice throwing the paper into the recycling bin.
- Make a tent with a sheet and the furniture. Use words like inside, outside, over, under. Continue the fun and read a book while you are in your tent.
- Collect some bugs and insects and create a bug zoo. Ask how the bugs are the same or different.





**Alternatives For Children
Wants Your Summer Fun To Be Safe
Pool Safety Information
Learn more at www.poolsafely.gov**



The greatest water safety assurance in swimming pools comes from adopting and practicing as many water safety steps as possible. Adding that extra safety step in and around the water can make all the difference. You can never know which safety measure will save a life – until it does. The following list outlines the water safety steps that you can and should take to help keep your family safe.

- Stay close, be alert, and watch children in and around the pool.
- Always watch your children and never leave them unattended around the pool.
- Teach children basic water safety tips.
- Avoid entrapment by keeping children away from pool drains, pipes, other openings.
- Have a phone close by at all times when you or your family are using the pool.
- If a child is missing, look for them in the pool first.
- Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors.
- Learn and practice water safety skills. Learn how to swim.
- Learn to perform CPR on children and adults; update those skills regularly.
- Understand the basics of life saving so that you can assist in a pool emergency.
- Have the appropriate safety equipment.
- Install a fence around the perimeter of the pool of at least four feet in height.
- Use self-closing and self-latching gates; ask your neighbors to do the same at their pools.
- If your house serves as the fourth side of a fence around a pool, install a door alarm on the door from the house to the pool and always use it!
- Maintain pool covers in good working order and consider installing a pool alarm.
- Have life-saving equipment such as life rings or reaching tools available for easy use.

IT'S TICK TIME - DO A DAILY TICK CHECK

Perform daily tick checks. Always check for ticks after being outdoors, even in your own yard. Because ticks must usually be attached for at least a day before they can transmit the bacteria that cause Lyme disease, early removal can reduce the risk of infection. Inspect all body surfaces carefully, and remove attached ticks with tweezers. Avoid crushing the tick's body. DO NOT use petroleum jelly, a hot match, nail polish, or other products. Grasp the tick firmly and as close to the skin as possible. With a steady motion, pull the tick's body away from the skin. Do not be alarmed if the tick's mouthparts remain in the skin. Cleanse the area with an antiseptic. For more information: <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/lyme/>



FAMILY EDUCATION RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

Alternatives for Children will work together with families to answer any questions, and help access information needed.

Each year, Alternatives for Children is required to notify parents of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations (FERPA) to:

- Inspect and review the student's educational records.
- Seek amendment to the student's educational records that the parent believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.
- Consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records.

Alternatives for Children will comply with a request for access to records within 45 days of a received request and respond to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of records. If a parent believes the education records relating to the student contain information that is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the student's rights of privacy, he or she may ask Alternatives for Children to amend the record.

**For More Information on FERPA
and your rights as parents visit our website**
www.alternatives4children.org/confidentiality-parents-rights.html
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

