

Mission:

11. Learning Pond

ORGANIZATION:

Music: 2.It's Hot Today

Material: Polyspots or sheets for lily pads. Add bubble wrap for extra excitement.

Book: *Cat's Colors* by Jane Cabrera; *The Letters are Lost* by Lisa Campbell Ernst

Set up: Lily pads are scattered in the center of the room. Children move around outside the lily pads.



Children are outside the area with the “lily pads” or polyspots that can also be called “rocks”. Based on the lyrics of the song, the children travel with specific moves (hop, jump, turn, bend, stretch, shake) outside the lily pad area. When the song stops, children go on one of the lily pads. Every child is standing on a different lily pad. On every lily pad, there is a letter, shape, or color. Ask some of the children to name the letter, shape, or color they are stepping on. Next, the teacher or a student says a number and all the children jump on their lily pads that many times while counting out loud.

VARIATIONS:

The children can jump on the lily pad, over it, or move around it. Use bubble wrap sheet for each lily pad and let the kids enjoy popping the bubble wrap as they jump on their lily pads.

EXTRA TIPS:

The children can start popping the bubble wrap when the teacher says “it is hot today” (so that they all start together).

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CHOOOSE:

Have a child roll a die to identify how many times children should jump on their lily pad.

ASSESS:



Development and Learning Objectives:

- TSG 16a - Letter naming
- Early Learning Standard 11.2 - Early Literacy, Benchmark 4
- TSG 21 Shapes
- Early Learning Standard 12.3 - Shapes and Spatial Reasoning, Benchmark 2
- TSG 20 - Names numerals
- Early Learning Standard 12.1 - Comparison and Number, Benchmark 5

Physical:

- TSG 5c - Jumps, Hops
- Early Learning Standard 8.2 - Large Motor Development, Benchmark 1

RELATE:

Ask the first child who named a letter (or shape or color) to say the name of a friend as the next person to read his/her lily pad.

ENERGIZE THE BRAIN
(EF):

If you play the game with the shapes, ask the children to do different moves based on the shape. For example, slide around the lily pad if there is a circle, leap over it if there is a triangle and jump with two feet if it is a square. This modification challenges inhibition, working memory and cognitive flexibility.