Montessori activities based on your child's interest for 3-12 year olds

by Simone Davies & Junnifa Uzodike for *The Montessori Child* book

Notes:
1. Have ideally 3+ hours a day of free unstructured play
2. These are ideas to get started but are not limited to these activities

Area of interest	Some starting points for exploration	Areas of development
Insects	• What insects can you find in your backyard? local area? Draw and label different insects in a nature journal • Learn about classification - what makes it an insect vs a spider? • Count how many woodllce you can find • Build a home for a found insect • Read books about insects • Visit a zoo with an insectarium	Science, biology, art, counting, language development
Rainbows	• What makes a rainbow? • Collect objects around the home to make your own rainbow • Make playdough in red, yellow and blue - mix blue and yellow to make green etc until you have a rainbow of playdough colors • Photograph everything green in your home or neighbourhood and repeat for different colors • Learn shades of colors like magenta, cobalt blue • Hanging a crystal to catch the sunlight	Science, light, art, language development
Space	• Draw or make a model of the solar system • Visit an observatory • Borrow a telescope • Look up the next solar or lunar eclipse to observe • Use an app to explore constellations in the night sky • Learn about space shuttles, the International Space Station, rockets, rovers etc • Explore the idea of living in outer space • Make a timeline of space exploration • Visit the library to borrow books on their area of interest	Science, language development, social development, technology
Explore art and craft techniques	• Origami paper folding • Making pots with clay • Salt dough ornaments as presents or to hang on a festive tree • Ink blowing • Stamps • Paper punches • Visit an Indigenous craft center in your neighbourhood, state, country • Make your own playdough - try different tools from cookie cutters, to sculpting tools, to making animal foot prints, press leaves into clay to make prints • Stencils • Fuzzy felt - make faces • DIY felt board - cover a canvas with felt, cut out items around a theme, e,g, farm, the season, sea creatures. The felt will simply stick to the felt background.	Art and craft, cultures, social development, creativity
Artists	• Try different techniques by famous artists • Study art history around the world including women, BIPOC, disabled artists • Visit art museums • Visit outdoor sculpture gardens	Art, research skills, going out, language, history, cultural studies, creativity
Drawing	• Use pencils, crayons, pens, charcoal, water colour, paints • Use a variety of papers, sizes of paper, old newspapers	Art, language, creativity

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Technology	For children over 6 years: • Introduction to coding: start with pattern recognition; start with block-based programming languages such as Scratch or Blockly; use hands-on coding toys like Lego Mindstorms; learn together with our child • Learn to build a website using Wordpress • Make a (not-boring) slide presentation • Learn typing skills • Research with the internet - learn what sites are reliable (have these bookmarked on the family computer) • Prepare a (non-boring) slide presentation • Learn to make stop motion films • Weld your own radio (with supervision) • Make a telephone with a string and two cans • Use walkie talkies • Create digital stories or films	Science, mathematics, technology, handwork, art, creativity
Electricity	• Use snap circuit kits, eg, to make a light go on, play music • Design a circuit to let you know someone is coming into your room using a sensor and sound device • Take apart and rebuild old electronics, eg, torch, cassette player etc • Research green electricity • Calculate our daily footprint • Explore electricity in nature, e.g lightning • Learn safety around electricity • Make a lemon battery • Static electricity experiments, e.g, rub balloons on hair	Science, mathematics, technology, creativity, handwork
Move our bodies in creative ways	• Make stilts from cans and string to walk on • Stepping stones from wood circles, found rocks • Create a labyrinth by placing rocks • Play musical statues or musical chairs • Games like Simon says • Egg and spoon race • Three legged race • Ball games like over and under	Gross motor, fine motor, woodworking, music, social development, creativity
Music	• Learn to play musical instruments • Listen to music - identify genre, instruments etc • Study the history of music • Learn rhythms, loud and soft • Play percussion • Sunday nights listening to music	Music, movement, sensorial development, fine motor development, creativity
Theatre	• Puppet theatre • Make your own magnetic theatre - make a stage from cardboard and raise 2 cm off the table (using wooden blocks); use chopsticks with a strong magnet stuck to them under the cardboard stage to move the characters (eg Lego people with magnets stuck on their feet) • Put on a play for your family • Dress up as your favourite book character • Practice acting out different emotions • Try some comedy • Put on a magic show	Language, creative writing, drama, literature, imagination, creativity
Handwork ideas	• Finger crocheting • Crocheting • Knitting - e.g. knitting squares to make blankets for charity • Sewing • Sewing a button • Making an embroidery pattern and creating a pillow or bag • Making a patchwork quilt • Weaving • Tie-dyeing • Working with clay	Fine motor development, art & craft, mathematics, creativity

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Food	• Cooking an omelette • Cooking a boiled egg • Baking cookies, cupcakes, cakes, muffins • Making bread • Make pizza dough - choose your own toppings • Make sushi • Learn to make a meal from your family/another culture • Preparing vegetables • Setting and clearing the table • Decorating the table - flowers, candles, place names • Grow your own food • Make a shopping list from pictures or writing a list, help at the supermarket to buy groceries	Practical life activities, botany, mathematics
Magnets	• Use a magnetic wand to pick up metal objects around the house • Create a magnet maze with a cookie sheet and magnetic balls • Sort objects into "magnetic" and "non-magnetic" categories • Experiment with the attraction and repulsion of magnets by trying to push them together or pull them apart • Create patterns and designs with magnet tiles on the fridge • Make a magnet fishing game by attaching paper clips to plastic fish and using a magnet to "catch" them • Investigate the strength of different magnets by seeing how many paper clips they can hold	Natural sciences
Dancing	• roll out a dancing mat and free dance • try ballet, jazz, tap dancing, hip hop, breakdancing, modern, folk dancing, traditional dancing • learn a dance from your family's culture • film you and a friend or family member doing a synchronised dance	Movement, music, rhythm, free expression, creativity
Sport	• Hang a boxing bag with some boxing gloves • Make a target on the wall for throwing bean bags • Darts for older children • Cricket • Baseball • Hockey, ice hockey • Tennis, badmington • Ballet, jazz, tap dancing, hip hop, breakdancing • Rugby, soccer • Winter sports - skiing, cross country skiing • Kids yoga	Gross motor development, mathematics, social development, fine motor development
Measuring & mathematics	• Take a tape measure to measure things around the home and record the measurements on a chart or graph • Measure ingredients such as flour, sugar, and milk for cooking/baking • Sort objects by size and measure them to compare which one is the largest or smallest • Estimate and measure distances outside using footsteps, handspans or arm lengths • Draw a picture using a ruler to measure and create straight lines or shapes • Play games such as guess the weight/length/volume • Measuring the amount of water in different containers • Use a stop watch to time races, cooking etc • Use a: - weigh balance - calculator - a watch/clock - a drawing compass • Collect rocks, shells etc for counting • Have a place on the wall to mark the height of growing children	Mathematics, natural sciences, sensorial development, language, geometry

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Gardening	• Composting • Growing flowers, e.g., sunflowers • Planting a herb garden • A raised bed for salad leaves • A vegetable garden or allotment • Raking leaves • Moving dirt in the wheelbarrow • Going to the garden center • Weeding • Harvesting • Indoor plant box if no other space, e.g, for a herb garden or some smalll flowers	Botany, practical life activities, gross motor development
Trees and plants	• Learn the names for the parts of a tree • Make a booklet • Leaf types • Bark collection and classification • Keeping a nature journal • Observing birds visiting a tree in your garden or park • Names of trees in your local area, country • Understanding photosynthesis • Conducting experiments to see if plants grow towards light, if they need light etc	Language, writing, classification, botany, creativity
Fruit and vegetables	• Make a booklet of A-Z of fruit • Taste fruits and vegetables • Try new recipes • Go fruit picking • Visit an allotment or community garden to work on growing fruit and vegetables • Photograph or draw still life paintings • Plant a herb garden • Plant a vegetable garden • Measure their growth • Look up seasonal vegetables • Go to the farmer's market - smell the fresh produce	Language, botany, writing, practical life activities, mathematics, sensorial development
Outside spaces	• Slides following the contours of the land • DIY tree house • Make shelter from sticks or willow • Create a tunnel/s • Make a walkway from wood planks • Stepping stones at various heights from old tree stumps • Create a climbing wall • Hang old pots, pans and bells as a banging wall to make music with a stick • Trees or other climbing structures • Paint a map on a concrete area outside • Draw a hopscotch • Chalk games • Spray bottles, paint brushes and water - make water art that will dry • See Rusty Keeler's resources	Gross motor development, imagination, social development, mathematics, fine motor development, music, creativity
Nature	• Collect items for a nature table, eg, rocks, sticks, feathers, flowers • Go camping - collect wood and make a fire (learn safety around and to respect fire), pitch a tent, sleep under the stars, sing camp songs, toast marshmallows • Photograph nature • Take a bird book and identify birds • Read books about nature • Sing songs about nature • Free play in the forest • Build houses from wood • Make a mud kitchen - some pots and pans, water, dirt	Botany, language, gross motor development, sensorial development, mathematics, creativity

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Nature (continued)	• Climb trees • Use tools like a compass, binoculars, magnifying glass, bug catcher, microscope • Have a bag at the ready with a water bottle, any tools, nature journal, compass, snack, torch, camera • For older children, learn to use a Swiss army knife • Make mandalas from leaves and petals or wall art from leaves, strings and sticks • Make mini rock gardens with moss, rocks, succulents etc. • Hug a tree • Forest bathing • Collect rocks and place in a spiral to make a labyrinth to walk through • Find and paint smooth rocks with patterns • Collect a shell at each beach visited; grade shells by type or colour • Press flowers in a book or flower press • Make mandala art, wall art or mobiles using things found in nature	
Make a collection	• See nature ideas above • Badges, magnets or stickers from places visited • Collect old and new stamps	Botany, classification, language, geography
Riding	• Ride bikes, scooters or skatebaords • Visit horses • Pony rides • Surf or body boards	Gross motor development, care of animals
Recycling	• Create storage for cardboard, paper, cardboard rolls, etc to be re-used • Re-use magazines and newspapers for collage • Involve children in recycling • Older children can take recycling to the bins • Visit a waste management plant	Practical life activities, care of environment
Care of environment	• Clean up day • Watering house plants • Dusting leaves/shelves • Make bed • Mending clothes • Cutting and arranging flowers • Sweeping, mopping, scrubbing	Practical life activities, care of environment, fine motor development, gross motor development
Care of self	• Folding laundry and putting in drawers/hang in cupboard • Ironing (with a small iron with limited heat) • Getting dressed • Washing and brushing hair • Brushing teeth and personal hygiene • Preparing for school or going out	Practical life activities, fine motor development
Weather	• Daily calendar with weather • Keep a weather chart • Read the temperature • Splash in puddles • Identify different types of clouds • Make an indoor tornado in a bottle • Experiment with freezing water to make ice cubes and then melting them • Create a windsock to measure wind direction and speed • Make a rain gauge to measure rainfall	Natural sciences, mathematics, language
Games	• Chess • Board games • Card games • Word games • Puzzles - crosswords, sudoku • Learn traditional Indigenous games • Backgammon	Mathematics, language, social development

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Writing	• Magnet letters on the fridge • Learning the sounds of letters • Eye spy using phonetic sounds • Have paper, pencils and scissors available to make lists, notes, signs • Print some paper with empty boxes to make comic strips • Have a stapler available to make small books and magazines based on their favourite book characters • Write letters to family and friends • Send cards • Make a letter writing area - include envelopes, stamps, blank cards • Make your own festive cards • Send new year greetings • Keep a diary • Interview family or experts and write a report	Language, communication, social development, art & craft, creativity, social development
Books	• Fiction • Non-fiction • Short stories • Chapter books • Poetry collections • Indigenous stories • Encyclopaedias • Field guides for birds, animals and nature • Biographies • Audiobooks and podcasts	Language, reading, history, any subject area
Languages	• Learn a language, e.g. for travel or for fun or as part of your culture • Read books & poetry in foreign languages • Watch films in foreign languages • Have a pen friend in another country • See Writing and Books above	Language, reading, writing, cultural studies
Outings - free or low cost	• Visit the park or playground • Swings, slides, climbing frames • Go hiking on a nature trail • Walk to the store to buy groceries • Go to the train station to wave at the drivers • Catch a ferry, bus, tram or train • At the beach make forts, castles, dams • Find a water pump and make a path for the water • Read and borrow books at the library • Visit a petting zoo or a local farm	Gross motor development, fauna and flora, mathematics, natural sciences, going out
Clothing	• Choose own clothing each day to wear • Learn to do up zippers, buttons, tie shoelaces • Look up clothing around the world • Traditional costumes around the world • Design outfits - cut out from different pattern paper • Make/sew clothing for a soft toy	Practical life activities, fine motor development, cultural studies
Inventions	• Learn about inventions like the telephone, the light bulb, traffic light, the internet, the bicycle etc • Design your own inventions • Make a chain reaction using marbles, blocks and household objects	Natural sciences, reading, research skills, report writing/presentation skills
Flags	• Color flags • Study a book of flags • Make a map of a continent and add flags for the countries • Collect stickers of flags from places visited	Geography, cultural studies

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Maps	• Make a map of your street or neighbourhood • Draw a map of your house/garden • Sketch a map of (nearby) rivers • Have available a globe, wall map, atlas • Make maps with country labels for each continent, or province/state labels for your country • Travel - Get a paper map of an area being visited and mark places visited, add illustrations, tickets, or make a travel diary from it	Geography, cultural studies, creativity
Travel	• Involve the child in planning • Purchase a paper map before departure • Create a visual schedule for those needing to know the plan • Have a notebook with a pen and perhaps some small water colours to make a travel diary	Writing, planning, art, cultural studies, creativity
Games for travelling	• Eye spy with my little eye • Bingo - make a list of things for them to find • Name a fruit starting with every letter of the alphabet • Etch-a-sketch toy • Notepad and paper • Noughts and crosses • Simple card games • Boxes - draw dots in a grid, take turns to add a line, aim is to stop your opponent to make boxes, while you make as many boxes as possible • Washi tape can make removable roads • Books • Sticker books	Language, taking turns, winning/losing, working together, creativity
Flight	• Name 10 things that fly • Research when aeroplanes were invented and how an aeroplane flies • Make paper aeroplanes • Make a kite • Make hot air balloons • Visit an aviation museum • Read about famous pilots including women, BIPOC pilots etc	Science, craft, research skills, going out, creativity
Film study	• Watch black and white films • Watch other classic films, e.g., Laurel and Hardy • Films about BIPOC and diverse populations • Documentaries and nature documentaries • Make stop animation films	Story telling, technical studies, any subject area, creativity
Human body	• Books about the body • On large paper, draw around the outside of their body - they can draw on their face and clothes or label body parts • Trace their own hands • Use anatomical models of the body to learn body parts and systems • Play “Simon says” moving different body parts • Make command cards for actions like “skip,” “hop” etc • Do yoga - have pictures or a book to follow • Mix paint to make the colour of their skin tone	Science, identity, language, gross motor movement, art, creativity
Family	• Draw a family tree - can improvise where family may not be related but care for each other • Learn names for relatives, eg, uncle, step mother etc • If possible, look up where the family comes from, their history, stories • Interview family members - or those who act as family	Language, identity, cultural studies, reading, writing, research skills, social development

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Poetry	• Read poetry books together • Try writing poetry in different forms such as: - Couplet: Has two lines that rhyme - Quatrain: Made of two couplets - Haiku: Has three lines; the first line has five syllables, the second line has seven syllables, and the third line has five syllables - Limerick: Has five lines, is funny, and has nine syllables in its first, second, and fifth lines and six in its third and fourth lines - Cinquain: Has five lines, with two syllables in the first line, four in the second, six in the third, eight in the fourth, and two again in the fifth	Language, any subject area, creativity
Transportation	• Explore transportation in the city/town you live • Take a train, metro, bus - learn to use a transportation map, plan the trip, purchase tickets • Visit a Transportation museum; learn the history of the wheel, trains etc • Build a town out of blocks or other building materials - plan roads, train tracks etc • Visit a building site, fire station etc • Read books about different vehicles/people who work with different vehicles • Learn the names of vehicles and classify types of vehicles: emergency/ construction/ farm/aircraft etc • Make art/craft around the theme of transportation • Construct a car ramp to launch vehicles • Trains - build a model railway; ride on a steam train; visit a train depot • Explore the principles of motion, friction, and force	Sciences, going out, language, creativity, art
History	• World history • History of local area/country where you live • Ancient history • Of a subject area, e.g., maths, the internet, photography, language, art • Archaeology • Geology • Learn about a period of history, e.g., Middle Ages (daily life, art, knights etc)	History, cultural studies, research skills, geography, natural sciences

People	• Research famous:
	  • people
	  • women
	  • scientists, mathematicians, historians
	  • BIPOC folks
	• Interview family members, siblings, neighbours, business owners in the neighbourhood
		Research skills, language, reading and writing, any area of interest, social development

Culture	• Learn about our culture - e.g., music, food, cultural celebrations, art, religion, dress etc • Learn about other's cultures • Study ancient civilizations	Cultural studies, research skills, geography, history
Time	• Learn how to read an analog and digital clock • Have a family calendar/visual calendar/calendar to record the day and weather • Younger children can practice story telling using references of time, e.g., yesterday, previously, last month, next year, before my birthday etc	Mathematics, language, story telling

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Photography	• Build a camera obscura • Try a film camera and if possible use a dark room to develop the film • Use a digital camera to record the home, outside the home, friends, pets, interests • Visit a photography museum • Learn about the parts of a camera • Borrow a polaroid camera to experiment with • Keep a photography journal • Experiment with light and shadows • Learn photo editing • Make a photography scavenger hunt - a list of things they need to find to take a photo of • Cyanotype - fun to watch images appear; easy to develop but wash hands properly and use pre-made paper rather than wet chemicals	Art, language, history, creativity
Obstacles courses	• Use wool or baking twine to add a laser-style course to climb through • Include balloons to dodge or jump up to hit • Use washi tape or painting tape to make a straight line to balance along, a zig zag, a line to bunny hop over from side to side, or to make arrows • Cardboard boxes with holes to climb through/throw in bean bags • Make an action dice from a cube shaped box, throw the dice and then follow the action (eg, jump like a frog, spin in a circle, stamp like an elephant etc) • Use ropes to make obstacles or to skip on the spot • Hoops to jump into, smaller hoops too, or use as hula hoops • Blankets between two chairs to make a tunnel • Cushions can become stepping stones or landing spots to jump from a step • Make a balance beam from rolling up a carpet/rug • Ikea tunnels • Forward roll along a mat • Play "the floor is lava/water" and balance on the various obstacles without touching the ground • Use a ride on car or scooter to move between stations • Climbing under and over dining chairs • Roll on fitness ball (with assistance) • Incorporate a Wobbleboard or Pikler triangle • Do star jumps • Jump on balance bike to collect something and bring it to a box • Make tin can stilts for kids with two cans and some string • Flop into beanbag • Make obstacles into a "forest" or "climb the mountain" • Hang up a laundry basket on the door handle to make a basketball hoop and they can throw ball in • Cones make good obstacles • Make a hopscotch with paper for each square • Use a twister mat • Place one boot on your foot and hop along a line without touching the other foot down • Use delivery crates to climb into • Make footprints from paper • Hang scarves to touch or walk through • Roll a ball • Set up the course in the corridor • Walk around the poles • Use a board with wheels to sit or lie on • Hang bunting as an obstacle to climb over • Egg and spoon race - use a paper plate with chopsticks (spoon) and balance a balloon (egg) or use them to play table tennis • Have an alternate path they can choose to take • Make a narrow bridge to cross • Use shoes or hats as obstacles to walk around	Gross motor movement, design, creativity

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Money	• Design a currency - paper and coins • Open a bank account • Learn about saving, spending and donating • Arrange a lemonade stand or yard sale to sell what you have made or are no longer using • Visit a museum with old cash registers • Fill a wallet with some cash and coins to practice paying and giving change	Mathematics, practical life activities, art, history, creativity
Building	• Lego • blocks • Grimms rainbow • magnatiles • Wedgits • Kapla blocks • Create a zoo, farm, castle etc • Woodworking • Build a go-kart	Fine motor development, mathematics, creativity
Water	• Make boats to float from recycled materials • Learn about the water cycle • Do a beach clean up • Practical life activities using water, e.g., water plants, wash hands, wash the dishes, arrange flowers • Sink or float experiment • Land and water forms, e.g, lake, island, isthmus • Make a homemade rain gauge to measure rainfall • Water colour painting • Pouring and measuring water • Explore the meniscus of water • Create a simple water filtration experiment using sand, gravel, and a funnel	Natural sciences, practical life activities, care of self, care of environment
Cardboard projects	• Make a looking box - take a shoe box, cut a hole in the side to peek through, make a 3D diorama inside the box • From a large box make a cardboard house with door and window • Make a store to sell goods • Paper maché or cardboard masks, e.g., of animals • Lanterns • Make a marble run from old toilet rolls - stick to a wall or fridge and make it as long as you can	Art and craft, creativity, physics
Pets	• There are considerations to weigh up whether keeping a pet is ethical - discuss this as a family • Acelotle, stick insect, rat, mouse, fish, hamster, rabbit, guinea pig, dog, cat, bird • Feed pet, give it water, wash it (if needed), clean the tank/environment • Teach it tricks	Care of others, care of environment
Volcanoes	• Simple science experiment • Research where there are active volcanoes • Look for volcanic rock • Draw volcanoes including cross section, label parts	Natural sciences, language, writing

Buildings	• Learn about different types of buildings, e.g:
	  • bell towers
	  • Mosques, Churches, Synagogues etc
	  • skyscrapers
	• Use recycled materials to design their own buildings perhaps around a theme, eg, water
	• Draw the floor plan of our home
	• Draw a sketch of the outside of our home
		Mathematics, design, creativity, research skills, history

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Dinosaurs	• Make a timeline of dinosaurs • Design a poster of a dinosaur - sketch it, statistics • Research dinosaurs - for example, learn their names, body parts, sketch them, learn what they eat, their size, what their name means • Design a diorama of their environment • Read (simple) encyclopaedia type books about dinosaurs • Learn about the different time periods and create a timeline of dinosaurs from the Triassic to the Cretaceous periods • Visit a museum with dinosaur skeletons if possible • Research excavation techniques and create a mock dinosaur excavation	History, animals, writing, research skills, creativity
Rocks	• Collect rock samples • Research to find out their type, classify, sort by colour, weight • Make a display • Interview a geologist • Study under a microscope • Outings to a mine, diamond factory etc.	Natural sciences, language, going out, presentation skills, social development
Old fashioned fun	• Make a paper chatterbox • Cat's cradle • Elastics • Long skipping rope • Clapping songs • Tag chasing game • Making hiding spots/cubbies with blankets and chairs • Making domino runs - a chain reaction by lining up dominoes and knocking the first down • Hopscotch • Inspired by Elm City Montessori, paint a giant map (continents/countries) in an outdoor space and play games to learn the names of countries or states • Use fuzzy felt to make faces, seasonal boards etc	Creativity, social development
Puzzles	• Jigsaw puzzles - choose the number of pieces depending on their ability • Layered puzzles add a different level of difficulty • Tangram puzzles to make different shapes • Wedgits - blocks that nest to make different patterns • Make mandala patterns using things found in nature • Learn the Rubik's cube • Sudoku puzzles • Word search and crossword puzzles • Use a puzzle map of the world and trace around the pieces to make their own map and label the continents/countries • Chess	Mathematics, spatial awareness, art and craft, logic
Animals	• Younger children can learn the names of animals - use specific vocabulary, eg, cheetah, jaguar, dalmation, Yorkshire Terrier • Then they can learn the parts of animals - eg, the domed part of a tortoise's shell is a carapace, the flat part underneath is the plastron • Can sort animals by where they live: land, sea, air (or perhaps more than one) • Can learn to look after animals, eg, volunteering at a petting zoo or mucking out horse stalls or looking after a family pet (if that aligns with our family values) • Observe animals - in their natural settings as much as possible • Learn about the life cycles of animals, insects etc • Sort animals by classifications, eg, mammals, birds, reptiles • Learn about/build models of different animal habitats, eg, forests, grasslands, deserts etc • Print animal tracks in clay from model animals or research tracks and make a journal of tracks • Create art - eg, make animal masks, sketch or paint animals	Language, geography, natural sciences, classification

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Ocean	• Learn about marine life - e.g. nomenclature, classification, ecosystems • Ocean conservation and environmental awareness • Understand ocean currents • Read books and watch nature documentaries • Learn about depth, length, size • Create a mini-ecosystem with sand, water, shells, and small marine figurines • Learn the names of oceans - use a globe or world map	Biology, mathematics, ecology
Fishing	• Names of fish, parts of fish - have a book about different fish species • Learning to tie fishing knots • Casting practice • Keep a fishing journal and draw specimens • Dissecting and cooking fish • Weighing fish • Learning fishing regulations in your area including endangered and protected fish	Natural sciences, language, hands-on learning, mathematics, writing/journaling
Robots	• Design a robot - use paper and pen to start (label the parts); make a 3D model from recyclable material • Use simple programming toys to build a robot • Use a metal detector • Have fun with a claw grabber • Create simple programs to control their robots • Set up obstacle courses for a robot to go through • Visits robotics labs, museums, or science centres • Explore sensors, automation, and remote control • Research the history of robotics and significant robotic innovations • Discuss the impact of robots on society and industry	Technology, creativity, design, mathematics
Babies	• Expecting a new baby - reading books about babies, following the growth of the baby in utero, singing and talking to the baby in utero • Spring offers a possibility to see baby birds, animals and to introduce the idea where babies come from • Care of baby - diapering, bathing, dressing, helping with a new baby • Showing how to be gentle with a baby; for an older child, how to carry a baby carefully • For an older child, we can introduce the idea of sex and answer any questions they have so they know to get information from us rather than other sources • With an older child, can talk about genetics and inherited characteristics	Biology, practical life skills, language, social development
Community carers	• Learn about people who show care in our community • Find non-stereotypical examples of these • Research, do art, write a story about a community carer, e.g., firefighter, nurse, doctor, postal delivery worker etc	Language, social development, creativity
Building strength/balance	• Helping us carry groceries • Building huts and carrying logs in the forest • Balancing on top of each other in a pyramid formation • Walking on stilts • Practice yoga, exercise, running, sprinting, jumping • Use a skipping rope - alone or a long rope with friends • Playing hopscotch • Pillow fights (with mutual consent from all parties) • Balance beams and balancing on logs, tree stumps etc • Riding bikes, mountain biking • Gymnastics - cartwheels, handstands, somersaults, vaulting • Rock climbing - build your own indoor climbing wall • Trampoline - indoor or outdoor • Self-defence classes • Building, woodworking (see above) • Climbing equipment at the playground • Ropes courses (tree climbing activities) including flying foxes	Gross motor development, coordination, social development, practical life skills

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