

Play is the most powerful way babies and toddlers learn.

Every time you play, sing or read with babies and toddlers they are learning about language.

The following activities have been designed for early childhood professionals to use as a starting point for developing children's early literacy skills through play.

Please feel free to adapt them for the home and with children of different ages.

Don't forget to record your own ideas, activities that worked really well, relevant songs and rhymes in the Notes section opposite.

Visit our website www.thelittlebigbookclub.com for more fun printable activities based on this book.

Engaging with Language and Literacy

Reading aloud with your baby stimulates developing senses and builds listening and memory skills.

When you read the story introduce the characters to the children:

- You can say: "Look there's Sheep, hello Sheep."
- Point to the pictures and name the characters.
- For younger babies you could include a waving action.
- Asks questions such as "Where's sheep?"
- Even if you answer the questions yourself, you are modelling how conversations work.

Focus on the key word - Yummy!

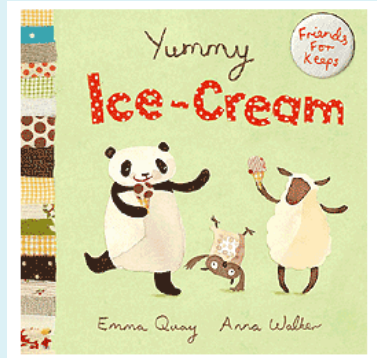
- Use body language such as licking lips and rubbing tummy.
- Invent your own rhymes to complement the story such as *yummy in my tummy*.

Use actions while telling story for example:

- Wave hello to the characters as you meet them at the beginning of the story.
- Make circles around eyes with fingers for phrases like "owls eyes are big and round".

Share an ice cream poem with the children:

- *Ice Cream*
(Author Unknown)
I like ice cream, yes I do!
One scoop for me?
No! Make it two!
Hmm two scoops of ice cream,
I want more!
How about three?



Yummy Ice Cream

Emma Quay and Anna
Walker

Notes

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No make that four!

1,2,3,4

Splat! Oh no! It's on the floor!

- Use the poem as a finger play.
- Use the props from the Ice Cream Stand (refer to Exploring Our World) to act it out with the children.

Discovering Sensory Play

Water Play

- Set up the water play trough with bubbles.
- Using small funnels and cups the children can scoop up "bubbly" ice cream.
- Repeat key phrases from the story "Yummy ice cream, it looks yummy!"

Sensory Table

- Create a sensory table with cold items such as ice cubes, crushed ice, wet face washers that have been in the freezer.
- Allow the children to feel the objects.
- Introduce the children to some new descriptive words, for example, chilly, cold, brr!

Exploring Our World

Yummy Ice-Cream Stand

- Create an ice cream stand with paper ice creams.
- Children can help scrunch up coloured paper to make the balls of ice cream.
- Use recycled ice cream containers to hold the paper ice cream.
- Cones can be made from thin cardboard or cardboard cylinders.
- Provide the children with large scoops and spoons to put the ice cream into the cones and practice their fine motor skills.

Enjoying Music and Movement

Adapt familiar songs to make them relevant to the book, for example:

- *Ice Cream Cones*
(Author Unknown)
(Sung to: *Mary Had a Little Lamb*)

We all like ice cream cones, ice cream cones, ice cream cones
We all like ice cream cones; we'll eat them right away.

More Books By Emma

Quay and Anna Walker:

Friends For Keeps Series:

Jump Over the Puddle

Let's Play House

By Anna Walker:

I Love To Dance

I Love To Sing

I Love Christmas

I Love Holidays

I Love Birthdays

I Love My Mum/Dad

Other books about friendship that are suitable for babies include:

Found You Little Wombat
by Angela McAllister

Me and You
by Janet A. Holmes

Spot (series) by Eric Carle

Maisy (series) by Lucy Cousins

Useful websites:

For printable activities:

www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au

Chocolate is our favourite kind, favourite kind, favourite kind
Chocolate is our favourite kind; we'd eat it every day.

(add as many flavour verses, as you like)

Thank you for the ice cream cone, ice cream cone, ice cream cone
Thank you for the ice cream cone, it really hit the spot.

- Change the words of action song *Five Current Buns*.

Five ice creams in the ice cream shop
Round and fat with a strawberry on the top
Along came (insert child's name)
With some money one day
He/She bought an ice cream cone
And took it away.

Children can take turns being the ice cream or purchasing an ice cream.

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