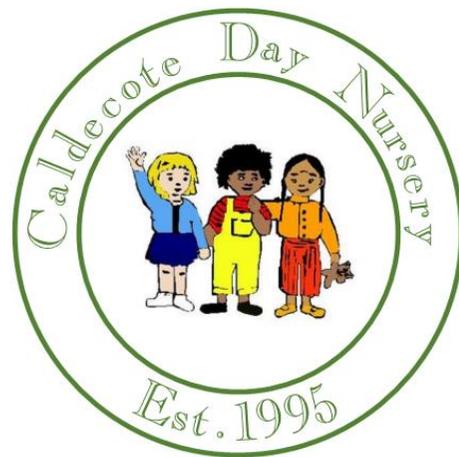


# Caldecote Day Nursery



## Home Learning Ideas

Tenth Edition



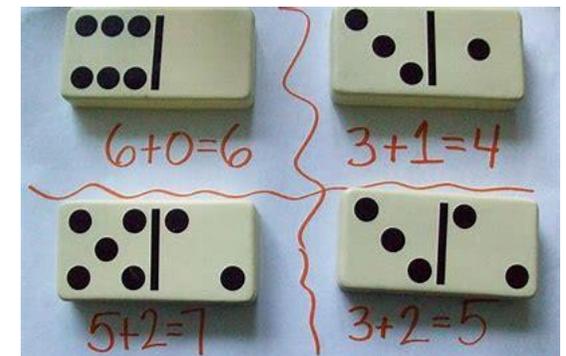
# Domino Maths

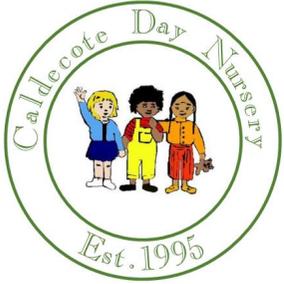
Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Use dominoes to develop counting skills.

**Materials:** A pack of dominoes, paper, pens.

**Learning:** Look at the various dominoes and talk about the spot patterns, counting the dots on each side. Organise the dominoes into groups by putting together all the dominoes that show 6 or 7 for example. How many different combinations can you find? Why not try larger totals by using two dominoes to make any given number. Next move on to basic addition and have a go at adding up dots from both sides of the domino to find a total. There are lots of possibilities using dominoes!





# Walking Water Experiment

Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Learn about primary colours as you watch water walk!

**Materials:** 6 jars, kitchen roll, water, red, yellow and blue food colouring.

**Learning:** Fill three jars 3/4 full with water and leave the other three empty. Add red, yellow and blue food colouring to each of the three jars with water in. Next fold kitchen paper into strips and place them between a full jar and an empty jar forming a circle. Watch as the water walks between the jars absorbing the liquid and creating a new colour in an empty jar. Talk about the colour mixing and absorption.





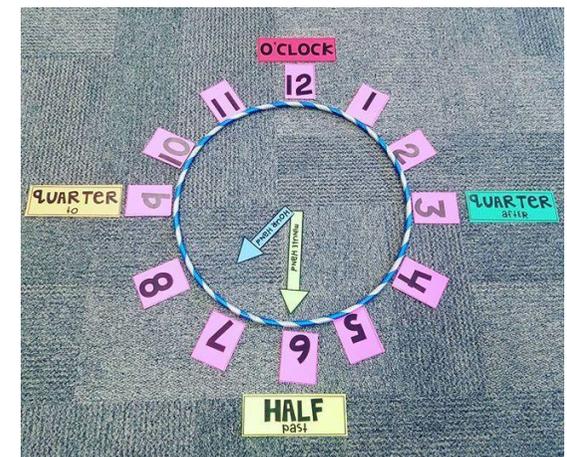
# Hula Hoop Clock

Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Use a hula hoop in the garden to create a clock, to tell the time

**Materials:** Hula hoop, chalk, wooden spoons or sticks for hands.

**Learning:** Take learning outdoors and set up a hula hoop clock to tell the time. Either use chalk and natural materials to denote the numbers and twigs for the clock hands or a more formal approach of numbered cards and labelled clock hands. Set a time on the clock and ask your child to read what it says or challenge them to set a given time.





# Wildflower Walk

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Take a walk and see how many wildflowers you can spot.

**Materials:** A container to collect any broken flowers or petals.

**Learning:** Take a walk and look at the many wildflowers that are currently in bloom. Talk about the various colours, or shapes and sizes of flowers. Photograph any for identification later or pick up and collect any broken stems to use in transient art or to press between heavy books to use in art later. Maybe just collect some cuttings and

place them  
in an empty  
jar to enjoy.





# Hidden Items!

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School

**Activity:** A simple activity for finding numbers letter sounds or pictures

**Materials:** Paper, pens a clear dish, something to fill it such as salt or coloured rice and a brush to search with.

**Learning:** Write a series of numbers letter sounds or even draw small pictures on the piece of paper. Now place the clear dish over the top of the paper and fill with salt, coloured rice or any other small item. Provide a list of what your child is looking for and give them a small brush to start searching. When they have brushed away the item in the dish, they will uncover what is hidden beneath and can mark it off their list.





# Twig Shapes

Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Use twigs to create 2D and then 3D shapes

**Materials:** A collection of twigs. (These may need to be cut to length.)

**Learning:** Challenge your child to make simple 2D shapes from twigs. Talk about the number of sides and corners exploring each shape carefully. Extend this by creating more complex 2D shapes such as pentagons or hexagons. Extend this even further by moving on to 3D representations of shapes. Talk about the number of faces and vertices the shape has. How many different shapes can you make?





# Easy-Peasy Pancakes

Club Caldecote



**Activity:** Make these pancakes for breakfast or as a treat.

**Materials:** 1 cup of flour, 1 cup of milk, 1 egg, frying pan and a little oil.

**Learning:** Mix the three ingredients in a bowl and spoon into a frying pan on a medium heat with a little oil. Flip the pancake halfway through cooking and make sure they are golden brown on both sides. Serve with a selection of fruit, yoghurt, syrup, Nutella. This really simple recipe is a great introduction to independent (but supervised) cooking for your children.





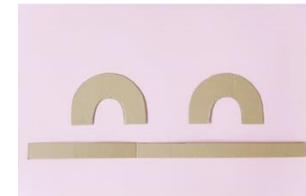
# DIY Piñata

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Make your own piñata, fill it with treats for a fun garden game

**Materials:** Cardboard box, string, tissue paper, tape, treats for inside.

**Learning:** The piñata can be made from of any shape. Cut two identical shapes, fix them together with a long strip of cardboard, remembering to leave a hole to add treats and a place to string it up. Decorate the outside using tissue paper, old wrapping paper, or anything else that will look good. Alternatively, decorating an old tissue box will work just as well. Fill with treats, hang up and get playing. Provide players with a stick and a blindfold and let the fun begin.





# Egg Shell Chalks

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Make chalks from some simple ingredients.

**Materials:** 1 tablespoon of crushed egg shells, (6 per chalk approx.) 1 teaspoon of flour, 1 teaspoon of water, food colouring.

**Learning:** Crush the eggshells so they are a fine powder. Mix the flour with water and add the eggshells and any food colouring you may wish to. When all the ingredients are combined, mould them into the shape of a chalk. Add drops of water if too dry or a sprinkle of flour if too sticky. Shape in your hands and then wrap in a piece of kitchen paper. This will absorb any excess moisture. Leave for two or three days to dry out, then unwrap and use!





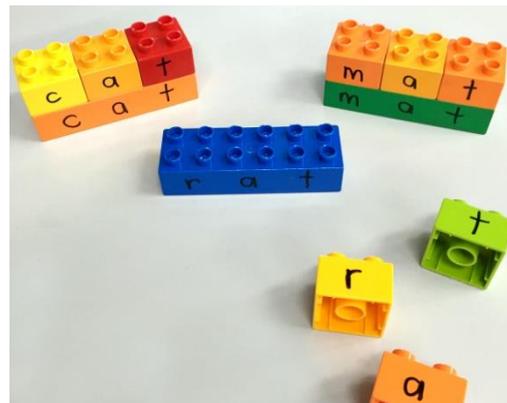
# Lego Rhyming Words

Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Use Lego or Duplo to encourage reading skills.

**Materials:** Lego or Duplo bricks, felt tip pen, sticky labels if you do not want to write directly on the blocks.

**Learning:** Write a series of three letter rhyming words on a selection of bricks. Encourage your child to look at and read the word taking note of the last two letters that make the rhyme. Sort and organise these into groups, stacking them up. Develop this by writing the letters of each word on individual bricks and 'word building' to create the rhyming word.





# Homemade Paintbrushes

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School

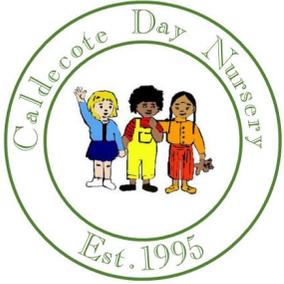


**Activity:** Peg paint brushes are a great way to experiment.

**Materials:** Pegs, any materials to clip into the peg, paper, paint.

**Learning:** Provide a range of materials that can be easily clipped into a peg. Ask your child to select a material and talk about why they've chosen it. Use the mini paint brush to create artwork talking about the texture and pattern that the paint brush leaves. Use different materials and discuss which ones work well and which ones don't. Great for developing fine motor and reasoning skills.





# Make your own Diorama

Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Use an empty cardboard or shoe box to create a new world.

**Materials:** A box, collage materials.

**Learning:** Decide what your scene is going to be and use collage materials to decorate the inside of your box. Start by making an interesting background and then include other items for the foreground. Perhaps your diorama is a place you have visited, you would like to visit or perhaps it is a replica of a room in your house? Have fun and be imaginative.





# Spa Treatments

Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Take time to relax and have a spa treatment or two.

**Materials:** Relaxing music, face masks, hand cream, cucumber slices, nail polish (optional).

**Learning:** Set up a relaxing space in your house where you can take time to chill out. Play relaxing music, indulge in a homemade yogurt face mask or lie back with cucumber slices to refresh your tired eyes. Paint your nails or perform treatments on someone else. A great way to take time, relax and refresh yourself.





# Family Olympics

Babies / Toddlers / Pre-School / Club Caldecote

**Activity:** Host your own Family Olympics at home.

**Materials:** Any materials from your house that would be good to include in challenges.

**Learning:** Set up your own Olympic events and challenge your family. This could be jumping over a tall pile of cushions; finding who can throw a rolled-up ball of newspaper the furthest, racing paper boats in the bath or having a hopping relay around the garden or living room. Make medals to present to the winners of the events and keep a scoreboard to tally up the totals. Be active, be together and have fun!

