

Preschool
36-60 months
October



Snack on a Stick: Making Patterns

DOMAIN(S)

Math; Approaches to Learning; Physical Development

MATERIALS

1. Fruit can include but not limited to:
 - strawberries
 - apple pieces
 - banana slices
2. Wooden skewers
3. Napkins and plates
4. Water to drink
5. Wet wipes
6. Small blocks or other manipulatives you can use to model how to make a pattern

OBJECTIVES

1. Children will make simple patterns with fruit.
2. Children will choose fruit that they like.
3. Children will wash their hands before snack.

HEADS UP!

Every snack has the potential to be messy. Wet wipes will help, but always have paper towels, a broom, and a mop ready for after snack.



You can cut the fruit ahead of time and put a little lemon juice on it to keep it from browning.



1. Monitor children closely with the skewers.
2. Allergies!



EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS

M.OA.PK3.4
AL.CI.PK3.3
PD.SHS.PK3.4
M.OA.PK4.4
AL.CI.PK4.3
PD.FM.PK4.4



ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

1. During group time, discuss patterns
2. Model how to make a simple pattern using manipulatives
 - red block, blue block, red block, blue block
 - big bear, small bear, big bear, small bear
3. Have children wash their hands and go to the table
4. Pass around the fruit and help children get the fruit they want
5. Encourage children to make patterns with their fruit
6. Pass out skewers
7. Encourage children to put their patterns on the sticks
8. Enjoy

ADAPTATIONS FOR INCLUSION



Some children will struggle with grasping small fruit pieces and/or with using one hand to steady their skewer and one to "thread" their fruit pattern. Consider modifying this activity by placing the skewer in a styrofoam block to help stabilize it! If you have members of your classroom community who struggle with overwhelm when making choices, consider limiting the fruit options for this activity. Additionally, be prepared to provide instructions and verbal prompts in all languages and modes of communication used in your classroom!

WORDS TO PRACTICE

Pattern
Skewer

EXPANSIONS



If you have very young preschoolers, or if you are in a room by yourself, consider leaving out the skewers. The children can still make patterns without the risk of sharp sticks.

TEACHER TIPS



1. Did the child successfully create a pattern?
2. Did the child use their thumb and forefinger (the pincer grasp) to pick up fruit?
3. Did the child properly wash and dry their hands?