

Infants
0-18 months

April



Teddy Bear Peek-a-boo Play

DOMAIN(S) Social-Emotional; Cognition; Language and Communication

EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS

SE.IB.IT 3a. Birth-9 mos.	SE.IB.IT 3b.ii. 8-18 mos.
C.M.IT 2a. Birth-9 mos.	C.M.IT 2b. 8-18 mos.
LC.AU.IT 2a. Birth-9 mos.	LC.AU.IT 2b.i 8-18 mos.

MATERIALS

1. Teddy Bear

WORDS TO PRACTICE

Teddy
Bear
Peak-a-boo

OBJECTIVES

1. The child will participate in back and forth interactions with the teacher through peek-a-boo.
2. The child will search for the teacher when hidden behind the teddy bear.
3. The child will look at the teddy bear when the teacher looks at it.

HEADS UP!

This activity does not call for much prep work, but it is a great activity to do to promote social engagement and social-emotional skills!

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Sit with child in your lap or seated across from you
2. Play peek-a-boo with the teddy bear. You can hold it in front of your face and peek your head out while saying, "peek-a-boo!" Or you can let the child hold the teddy bear and see if they move the bear to say "peek-a-boo!"

ADAPTATION FOR INCLUSION



If you have a child in your classroom who needs support with sitting, you can sit the child in your lap across from a mirror to play peek-a-boo. Having a child in your lap will provide the stability that he/she needs.



EXPANSIONS



Younger preschoolers should not be expected to count or add items. You are introducing the concept to them and allowing them to experiment.



1. See "Where is Black Bear" activity.
2. See "Black Bear, Black Bear, What Do You See" activity.
3. Include a mirror in this activity for older infants and toddlers to play peek-a-boo in the mirror.



TEACHER TIPS



1. When you hide behind the bear or when the child hides behind the bear, say, "where did (teacher's name/child's name) go?"
2. When you or the child poke their head out from behind the bear, act surprised and say, "peek-a-boo, I see you!"



1. Black bears have played a major role in Mississippi history. Native Americans used the black bear as a source of food, clothing, and goods for trading. As settlers moved into the area, black bear hunting became a sport. President Theodore Roosevelt came on one of these bear hunting trips. Theodore Roosevelt decided not to shoot the black bear and a toy maker later asked permission to call his stuffed bears the "Teddy Bear." Because of the large amount of hunting for sport, the black bear was placed on the endangered list for Mississippi. They are now a protected species in our state.
2. This activity is a good way to assess object permanence, which is a developmental milestone children reach when they know something exists without seeing it. Children begin to work on object permanence between 8-18 months.



1. Did the child imitate the teacher's actions?
2. Did the child search for the teacher behind the teddy bear?
3. Did the child attend to (or look at) the teddy bear when the teacher looked at it?