

# The Whole Child

[www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com](http://www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com)

## July

### 1. Gross motor skills

Encourage your child to roll across the floor and back again. This develops body awareness and co-ordination of major muscle groups.

### 2. Fine motor skills

Eye-hand co-ordination, manual dexterity: Let your child draw with chalk on a blackboard, preferably one standing upright. Encourage her to draw a circle starting at the two-o'clock position and moving anti-clockwise.

### 3. Visual skills

Visual discrimination, colour perception: Place a red, a yellow and a blue object (like blocks or shapes) in front of your child. Hand him another of one of those colours and ask him to place it on top of the shape that is the same colour as the one you have given to him. Repeat the game with the other two colours.

### 4. Auditory skills

Auditory discrimination: To help your child learn to recognize voices, use a tape recorder to record conversations when familiar friends or relatives visit. Play the tape back to your child later and ask her to identify the voices.

### 5. Mathematical skills

Dimensions: Cut two each of large, medium and small square pieces of card or paper. Place one of each size on a table and ask your child to match the remaining three with the right sized one on the table. Teach him the words, "small", "medium" and "large"/"big".

### 6. Language skills

Active Language Development: Cut a full-length picture of a male and a female from a magazine. Use them to ask your child questions that will require her to use pronouns like "you", "me", "she", "him" etc. For example ask, "Which of us are wearing a dress?" "Which one is wearing a suit?" Emphasize the pronouns during this activity.

### 7. Faith-building

Each night when you tuck your child into bed, tell her that you love her and that JESUS loves her too. Even if she can't see Him, she can know that He loves her. God uses parents to show children His love.

Bible Reading: Continue with your Bible reading and prayers as part of your bed-time routine. My little ones have enjoyed reading [The Beginners Bible](#).