

# Covid-19 Stay at home ideas for preschool

Gross Motor:

<http://www.avasalphabet.com/15-awesome-yard-games/>

Great games that will improve gross motor skills. One has some math incorporated into it too 😊

Math:

Stay at home educator, LLC – Butterfly Counting Cards (PDF) – also incorporate fine motor skills – let your child use play dough to create butterfly eggs – to match quantity to the numeral on the page. Or they could draw that many eggs on the leaf. Or for more advanced – make a butterfly out of play doh – or draw them on the leaf.

Fine motor:

<https://www.3dinosaurs.com/printables/packs/bug.php>

Cutting and prewriting practice for the littlest of learners: Pick the Bug Tot Pack

For the older preschoolers – use the Bug Part 1,2 or 3 from Cassie at 3 Dinosaurs website

Have your preschooler Cut out the puzzle pieces & trace the lines – you can put the paper into a page protector or a plastic Ziploc bag and they can use a dry erase (sometimes Crayola Markers work too) – this will let the child wipe off and use again. Also the patterning pages are cut and paste – also helping with fine motor skills.

Literacy (Use Part 1 – copy the cards and use as a memory match game – talk about the butterflies & pictures and about spring as you point out the word on each card)

More Math: Use the patterning pages and can extend the activity to do other patterns

Social-Emotional:

The following is taken from Julie at <http://fumblingthroughparenthood.blogspot.com/2011/05/musical-feelings-game.html>

## Musical Feelings Game

We played this fun and silly Musical Feelings game today using the cards from our [Feelings Lapbook](#). (These printables are available for free.) It was perfect for getting some wiggles out, working on listening skills, and reviewing what we covered this past week.

Here's how you play:



We took the flip book pages out of our [Feelings Lapbook](#) and laid them on the floor in a circle. This would probably be more fun done outdoors, but it was far too windy to do that when we played. It didn't matter for the way we played, but you could also put the cards face down.



Put on some music and let your child walk, run, hop, jump, or dance from card to card. Dude did all of those things! *(after my camera died unfortunately)*

Stop the music and have your child FREEZE! Dude and I were both playing, so we both froze.

Then take either the card you're standing on, or the card your child is standing on and (hiding it from their view) make a face or describe a situation involving that feeling and have them try to guess the feeling. If your child is willing and able you could also let them describe the card they're standing on while you try to guess and then you describe the one you're standing on for them. I did all the describing for our game, but Dude often mimicked my faces once he'd figured out the answer. We had so much fun with this! If he couldn't guess it immediately I'd show him the face on the front of the card as a hint.

*There were also occasions where Dude gave a good answer, but it just wasn't the one I was looking for. That's OK! We all react differently to situations and I didn't want him to feel like there was a wrong way to feel so I just went with it saying something like: "Yes, some people feel mad when they get pushed down and some other people might feel sad when they get pushed down. How would you feel?" It was actually interesting for me to see just how Dude described his own emotions.*

When your child guesses the card you're describing remove that one from the circle, start the music back up, and get moving again!

We had a lot of fun with this game and I could easily see it still being fun as Dude gets older and is able to come up with more of his own situations. It would probably also be a great game for pulling in older siblings to join in the fun!

Science:

Let your preschooler have access to some writing tools & paper or notepad of their own. They can take notes on changes they see out the window with spring – notice what is changing on the trees. Keep note on what color and kind of bugs they are seeing. Have them note the changes of flowers and how leaves are getting bigger and bigger each day. Look outside at the birds they may be seeing in the trees.



They can be “scientists” and make predictions about what they think might take place next with flowers, trees, birds. Help them make their own binoculars out of 2 toilet paper tubes – taped together – let them decorate as they would like.

Ideas for letting your preschooler have access to writing

materials:

Idea from : <http://learningandteachingwithpreschoolers.blogspot.com/2010/10/portable-writing-centers.html>

When children have the opportunity to write in many areas of your classroom they build knowledge that print has meaning. This go anywhere writing center could end up in your construction area where you will see children drawing what they just built or they might make a blue print of their creation so that they can create it again. Children will want to bring it outside where they might write the world’s best recipe for mud pie. Always remember to include writing in the child’s play and the go anywhere writing center is an easy and effective way to do just



that.

Create a writing center that can go anywhere. This go anywhere writing center was made out of a tool bag that we found at Home Depot. Around the outside pockets we placed different writing tools (felt tip markers in large and small, colored pencils, ball point pens, milk pens and chubby pencils). In side we placed clip boards, writing pads, variety of paper, post it note pads, lap boards with dry eraser markers and file note cards.



**Portable Office Writing Center:** Place items in an old briefcase. What we have in our briefcase: Phone, Telephone Book, Key Boards, Planning Book, Desk Calendar, Pen/Pencils/Markers all in a plastic box. Message Pad, Envelopes, Junk Mail, Stamp Pad/Stamps, Stapler, Tape Dispenser, and lots of writing pads.