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Date: 5/12/20

Activity: A Few Bath Time Activities

**Activity Name:** If It Floats Your Boat

**Description:** Launch a fleet of floating bath toys (boats, balls, plastic fish, and squeak toys) into the tub for active water time fun! If the toys float too far “out to sea” for your child to spot or reach then in the tub, put them in a smaller and more defined floating space, such as a metal cake pan or a shallow food storage container filled with water. Light-up bath toys and buoyant items from around the house (an apple, an orange, plastic containers, sponges) can add to the fun. Use special care as you select objects for your child who may mouth or chew on objects.

**Activity Name:** Little Squirts!

**Description:** Squirting bath toys can bring lots of fun to bath time. Look for phthalate-free vinyl toys that come in various shapes (animals, balls, vehicles), textures and colors. The perfect size for little hands, squirting toys will encourage your child to grasp and squeeze to produce little bursts of water. You can gently squirt water onto her body as you point out her tiny toes, hands, hair, etc. This is a great activity to work on fine motor development, hand strength, and body awareness.

Activity Name: **A Touch of Fun**

**Description:** Engage your little one’s fingers with a variety of bath time textures! Toys and other items from around your house (made of plastic, metal and cloth) can create a “water park” of interesting textures to explore in the tub. For a touch of fun, vary the materials you use to wash and dry your child, to include washcloths, nylon net bath puffs, body brushes, bar soap, foaming soap, liquid soap, or a warmed bath towel. Introduce new textures slowly and observe your child’s reactions to them to be sure they are pleasing to her.

These activities were taken from Laptime and Lullabies (Booklet 17) Literacy Activities, Rhymes, and Songs, by: Kay L. Clarke.