Ant Observation

Materials:

None needed

Procedure:

Take your child on a nature walk to find ants.

Encourage your child to squat down and observe the ants. Ask open ended questions such as “What do you think the ants are doing?” “Do you see any ants doing anything?” “Are they carrying larger objects than themselves?” “Do you think what they are carrying is heavier than they are?”

Extension:

When you get home, draw what you have discovered.

Share fun facts with your kids about ants:

* Ants can lift 20 times their body weight
* Ants do not have ears. They sense vibrations through their feet.
* Ants are the longest living insects.

State Standard

11 AECc Plan and carry out simple investigation.

Q Tip Painting

Materials:

* Paint
* Paper
* Q-tips

Procedure:

Discuss what insect they like the best.

Instead of using a paint brush, have them use q’tips.

State Standard:

25 AECd Investigate and participate in activities using visual arts materials.

Counting to Happy

Materials:

None needed.

Procedure:

It is okay for your child to get upset. One way that might help him/her calm down is by counting. When your child is upset, have them slowly count to ten. If they need additional counting, count backwards. Practice this when your child is not upset.

State Standard:

30AECa Recognize and label basic emotions

The Very Hungry Catepillar

Materials:

* Book or e-book The Very Hungry Caterpillar
* Old sock
* Newspaper or adds to stuff the sock with
* Collage materials
* Glue
* String or yarn

Procedure

Read or listen to The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

Take an old sock and have your child stuff the sock (paper adds, old scraps of cloth, etc). Stop around one inch from the top. Tie it tightly with the string.

Encourage your child to add craft materials to the socks to make their own caterpillar.

Have your child retell The Very Hungry Caterpillar using their puppet caterpillar they created.

Extensions:

Explain what a character of the story is.

Sequence events in the story.

Talk about healthy foods and not healthy foods that the caterpillar ate.

Have your child draw out their favorite part of the book. Dictate what they say and write it on their drawing.

State Standard:

5BECa With assistance, use a combination of drawing, dictating, or writing to express an opinion about a book or topic.