



TIME OUT FOR PLAY

March 2009
 Volume 38



Tumblebugs

Materials:

Scissors

Card stock

2 nickels

Tacky glue

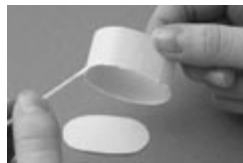
Toothpick

Marble (1 for each bug)

Black marker

Coloured tissue paper

Glue stick



For each bug, cut a 5-1/2-by 3/4 -inch strip of card stock and two 1 3/4 by 7/8-inch card stock ovals. To make an oval, lay 2 nickels side by side on the card stock and trace around them, connecting the top and bottom. Glue the strip into a loop, overlapping the ends by an inch. Pinch it or use a paper clip to hold it together while the glue dries. Next, use a toothpick to line one edge of the loop with glue, then set the loop on top of an oval. When the glue dries, place a marble inside. Line the edge of the loop with glue and press the other oval on top. Once all the glue is dry, use a marker to add a face and other features. Cut out a couple of 2-inch-long wings from tissue paper and use the glue stick to attach them to the top of your bug.

St. Patty's Day Punch

Children will appreciate the opportunity to join in the festivities with this sweet and sparkly beverage. Since it's made with milk, the punch is good for them too!

Ingredients:

1/2 cup milk

1 scoop of vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt

4 drops mint extract

2 ice cubes

2 drops of green food colouring

Splash of club soda

Dollop of whipped cream

Directions:

Combine milk, ice cream or frozen yogurt, extract, ice cubes and food colouring in a blender. Mix until smooth. Pour into glass. Add a splash of club soda and top with a dollop of whipped cream.

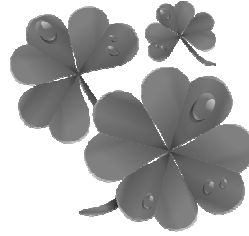


Green Song

Sung to "BINGO"

By: Chicky

There is a colour
That I say
It represents St. Patrick's Day
G-R-E-E-N
G-R-E-E-N
G-R-E-E-N
And Green is that colour



Reading to your Toddler

As your child becomes more active, it can sometimes be tough to get him to sit still while you read him a book. But reading is critical for developing language skills and later performing well in school, so take the time to make books appealing and interesting for your on-the-go child.

At age 2, listening to a story can actually be an active pursuit, suggests Maureen O'Brien, Ph.D., in her book "Watch Me Grow." Don't just stick to the storyline -- ask your child to name objects in the illustrations or point to them ("Where's the spider?") or use the book as a springboard for a discussion ("What would you do if there was a lamb at school?").

Kids love repetition so be prepared to read the same stories over and over again. To hold your child's attention -- and yours -- choose books that have rich illustrations and engaging words. "Becoming the Parent You Want to Be" co-author Janis Keyser points out you don't have to read every word on the page. You can also change the words to be silly or more engaging, if you like.

Also, make books as readily available as toys, putting board or cloth books in your daughter's crib at naptime or placing a basket of them by her potty. While she won't be able to read them herself, having them nearby will help foster a lifelong love of books.

