

The Wise and Foolish Builders

Baby and Toddler Lesson



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Story



Jesus told a parable about two men who built a house.

The first man loved the beach and chose to build his house on sand.

The second man was very wise.

He also loved the beach, he knew sand was too soft.

The wise man chose to build his house on a rocky hill.

He knew his house would be safe on the rock.

One day, there was a huge storm.

The rain poured down and the winds blew.

Soon the land became flooded.

The storm swept away the house on the sand.

But the house on the rock was safe.

Jesus said, "If you listen to my words and practise them. You are like the wise man".

No matter which storms may come, you will be safe and secure."

Rainy Rolls

It rained and rained. Only the house on the rock could stand.

Skills learned:



Creativity



Fine Motor skills



Listening

Materials needed:

Cardboard rolls

Beans or rice

Rubber band

Paper

Preparation:

Collect the cardboard rolls. Cut pieces of paper large enough to cover the ends of the tubes.



For Babies and Toddlers:

Cover one end of the cardboard tube with paper and a rubber band.

Give the child a bowl with rice or beans.

Ask them to put a few handfuls into the tube.

Cover the other end with paper and a rubber band so that the tube is closed.

Toddlers may also design their cardboard rolls.

When done, turn it upside down slowly and hear the trickle of rain inside the cardboard rolls.

Read the story and have the toddlers make the sound of rain.

Build it on the sand

The foolish man found it easy to build a house on the sand, but his house did not last.

Skills learned:



Sensory development



Scientific skills



Fine Motor skills

Materials needed:

- Sand
- Rock
- Lollipop sticks or blocks
- Tray
- Water spray

Preparation:

Place a mound of sand onto the tray.

Steps:

For Babies and Toddlers:

Encourage children to place sticks into the mound of sand.

Imagine they are building a house.

Encourage them to stick the sticks deeper into the sand.

Ask if it's easy or difficult to push in the sticks.

(For toddlers: Ask them to try to push a stick into the rock. Which is the easiest?)

When they are finished, invite them to spray or pour water onto the sand and house.

Continue as the sand washes away.

Ask them what happens to the sticks and sand?

Let them talk about their observation.



Air Painting

“The winds blew with all their strength, but the wise man’s house stood strong.”

Skills learned:



Creativity



Logic



Hand-Eye
Coordination

Materials needed:

Wax Crayons
Paint / Card
Water
droppers
Paper
Straw



Preparation:

Mix some watery paint.

Steps:

For Toddlers:

Invite the toddler to draw a picture of a house with crayons.

Let the child use droppers to drop the watery paint on a piece of paper/cardboard.

Next, give the child a straw to start blowing on the paper to distribute paint on the surface.

Let them observe that whenever they blow that the paint goes in the same direction.

By using wax crayons, the house should remain.

Sand and rock Imaginative Play Building

This fun activity allows the child to get hands on with the parable.

Skills learned:



Imagination



Fine Motor skills



Vocabulary

Materials needed:

Sand

Smooth stones

Toys

Play blocks

Preparation:

You don't need a large area for this activity. You could use a tray, sandpit or visit the beach.

You just need some sand and smooth rocks / stones.



Steps:

For Babies

Allow the child some free play to explore the different items.

Introduce describing words such a smooth, hard, soft, warm, cold and so on.

For Toddlers:

Ask the child to use the stone to make an area for the wise man to build a house.

Encourage them to press them into the sand.

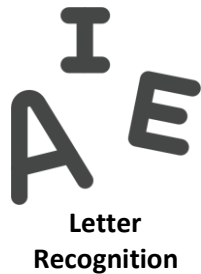
Next use building blocks to act out the parable.

There is do harm to modernise a little if you have a child who loves diggers and construction vehicles. Allow them to use their favourite toys to build the scene.

Sand / Rock Letters

This is a fun sensory activity to help children practice letter recognition.

Skills learned:



Materials needed:

Tray
Sand
Stones



Preparation:

Place some sand on a tray

Steps:

For Toddlers:

Use your finger to draw a letter in the sand.

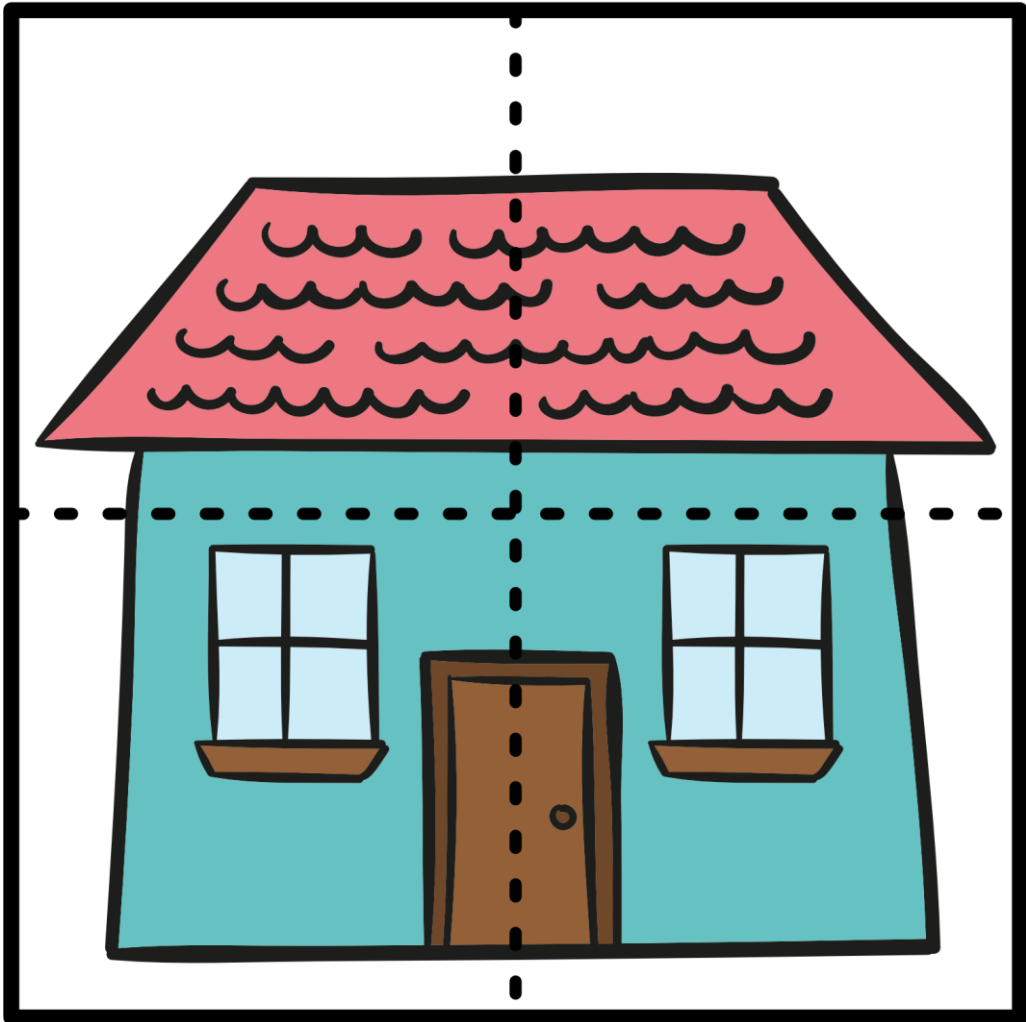
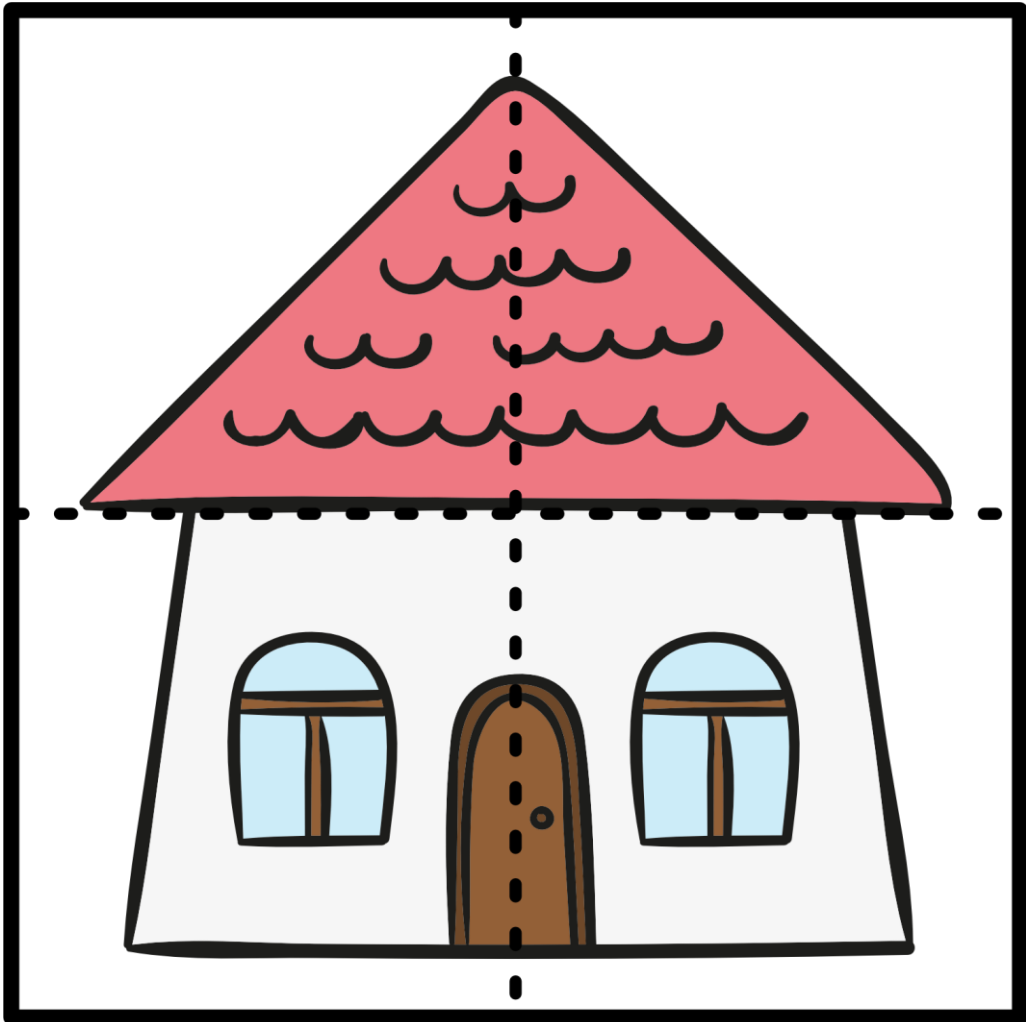
Give the toddler some stones to place on the line and create the letter.

Say the letter and repeat the sound together.

Think of words which begin with that letter.

Repeat with other letters.

If the toddler feels able, allow them to draw the letter in the sand and place the stones.



Draw or build the houses from playdough



Songs



Recommended worship songs. Not produced by Trueway Kids. YouTube Videos to be used for personal use only.

Don't build your house on the sandy-land!

<https://youtu.be/GPnln5WtR7U>