

## TODDLERS

### TODDLER LESSON PLANS

Renee writes:

I am a toddler teacher and I need help looking for websites that provide toddler lesson plans. Can you help me?

Jean replies:

I am sorry but I do not know of any website that has toddler lesson plans. The Preschool Express website does have activity suggestions for ages 1-3 at the Toddler Station.

It sounds like you are trying too hard. You need to set up a schedule that fits the age of your children. You can bring in one new object a day for your children to observe, talk about, plan an activity around. Keep it simple, toddlers love repetition. If you just set up a safe, fun area or areas for toddlers to wander around in, half of your work will be done.

Everything toddlers do is a learning experience. Learn from your children, what are they interested in? Your goal should be to encourage motor skills, language skills and social skills. When toddlers are playing is the best time to incorporate numbers and colors into the learning experience. Look for ways to expand their vocabularies. Point out when they put something "in" and when they take something "out" of a container.

You cannot really plan ahead the learning that takes place in a toddler setting. Like I said, you can plan to introduce a new object into their environment or you can encourage them to feel the difference between two textures but 80% of the learning comes through their own interests and explorations.

Sincerely, Jean Warren, Preschool Express