



# Science and Technology/ Engineering at Home Toddlers (15 mos. - 3 yrs.)

## How Children Learn

Toddlers develop early scientific skills through exploration and discovery, as they develop greater independence and physical control.

## Activities & Experiences

Put natural materials (leaves, snow, flowers, dirt, etc.) in buckets or bowls with cups, shovels, spoons, or other tools for exploration.

Put water in a container along with whisks, spoons, ladles, funnels, tubes, or other props.

Create "ooblec" using cornstarch and water on a plate or in a bowl.

Ask children's predictions of what will happen when baking soda and vinegar are combined. Then observe the chemical reaction that occurs.

Collect empty boxes, paper towel tubes, etc. for your child to build structures exploring balance, weight, and size.

## How can we support exploration and social-emotional learning?

- Talk about materials and the way they change using descriptive and accurate vocabulary (ex. combine, squish, melt, mix, spread).
- Support pretend play through science (ex. pretending to cook with ooblec).
- Facilitate conversations to help children take turns (ex. help your child figure out how to ask another child for a turn with the funnel).

When you mixed the blue and red paint, what color did you create?

What are you cooking?

Mary would like a turn with the shovel when you are done.