Babies are fascinated by the natural environment. They keenly experience the sights and sounds of the outdoors. A beach visit is a great opportunity for your child to learn about animals, colors, textures, and sounds while practicing large motor skills.

• Plan a beach day, at the coast or locally. Observe the differences between sandy beaches (like Dash Point in Federal Way) and rocky beaches (such as Owen Beach in Tacoma). Find treasures such as shells, rocks, dried seaweed, and driftwood.
• Play with items you find at the beach. Talk about sizes, shapes and colors.
• At the beach, jump waves as they roll toward you and your child to help develop gross motor skills. Or, hold baby close and help dip their toes into the water.
• Visit Sandbox Sports in Seattle for “‘Lil Diggers Playtime.” Children can play in a giant sandbox with other children and beach toys. For fees, location and other info, check sandboxsports.net/kids-sandbox
• Visit Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium to see unique marine creatures, including sharks, fish, sea stars and urchins.

More Books
• 10 Little Fish / 10 Pececitos by Harriet Ziefert
• Beach Feet by Kiyomi Konagaya
• Crabby Crab by Christopher Raschka
• Where is Baby’s Beach Ball? by Karen Katz

Rhyming Fun
The Waves on the Sea
(With baby on your lap, sing to the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus”)
The waves in the sea go up and down,
(Lift baby up and down)
Up and down, up and down,
The waves in the sea go up and down, all day long.
The shark in the sea goes snap, snap, snap…
(Help baby’s hands snap open and closed)
The fish in the sea go swish, swish, swish…
(Help baby swish from side to side)