Insects
Playing together outdoors provides many opportunities for building baby’s muscle skills as you enjoy nature together. Young children often discover insects that crawl, burrow and fly. Talking to your baby about the insects you find will help build baby’s speech patterns.

• Look under rocks with your baby; name the bugs you recognize. You’re building vocabulary and curiosity!
• Make silly insect-inspired food like “Ants on a Log.” (Raisins and nut butter on celery sticks).
• Sing songs and rhymes about insects and other bugs. “The Ants Go Marching” is a fun song that also teaches counting skills.
• Play in the mud! Help your child make a “bug house” with mud, sticks and leaves.
• In Seattle, visit Pacific Science Center’s tropical butterfly house.
• For a butterfly experience closer to home, create a backyard butterfly garden. The Library has books to help!

More Books
• Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! by Bob Barner
• Butterfly Butterfly: A Book of Colors by Petr Horáček
• Hello, Bugs! by Smriti Prasadam-Halls
• I Love Bugs by Philemon Sturges

Ideas & Tips

Rhyming Fun
Here is a Beehive
Here is the beehive
(Make a fist)
But where are the bees?
(Shrug shoulders)
They’re hiding inside
where nobody sees
(Whisper)
Watch them come out of their hive: One, two, three, four, five!
(Count on your fingers,
opening the “beehive” fist)
Buzzzzzzzzzzzz
(Let the bees “fly” and tickle baby)