



Musical Islands

**MOVE
PLAY &
LEARN**

Age 2 years and older

Materials Music and play hoops, carpet squares or baby blankets

Setting A wide open space

Description Place space markers (hula hoops, carpet squares, or baby blankets) on the ground to create “islands.” Place at least one for each child and spread them apart so that there is enough room for the children to move about between them. Play music and dance about. When the music stops, everyone hops onto an “island.”

Learning Outcomes

Movement The toddler engages in creative movement and dances to music. He or she demonstrates balance and body coordination. The toddler represents experiences and concepts through movement. He or she runs and moves with ease, stopping and starting with precision.

Large Motor Skills The toddler plays actively, practicing, exploring and expanding motor skills and interests through music.

Music The toddler shows interest and participates in music activities through gestures, movement and dancing. He or she expresses self creatively to variations in music such as changes in rhythm, volume or temp.

Mathematics The toddler begins to understand time concept of starting and stopping on a signal.

Did You Know?

Effective movement, facilitators observe each toddler’s ability and adjusts tasks to an appropriate level of challenge (SHAPE America). They adjust tasks by adding a new prop or material, modeling movement patterns, providing verbal or visual cues, and/or providing physical assistance. Effective movement facilitators step in only when a child is either frustrated or bored and has been unable to devise a successful solution on his/her own.

TODDLERS