



# Pool Noodle Lacing

MOVE  
PLAY &  
LEARN

**Age** 2 years and older

**Materials** Pool noodles cut into two inch pieces to look like discs or lacing “beads;” three to four foot lengths of rope

**Setting** Sitting on floor

**Description** Model for the toddler how to lace pool noodle pieces onto a rope. Give toddler a turn. Provide physical assistance at first if necessary. Provide verbal cues until he or she can independently put each noodle piece onto the rope. Have some fun with the leftover pieces. Throw them up in the air and let them fall down onto you and the toddler.

## Learning Outcomes

**Fine Motor Skills** The toddler handles objects with growing skill. He or she develops fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination through playing with toys and materials. The toddler uses strength and control to perform simple tasks such as lacing , drawing and putting puzzles together.

**Approaches to Learning** The toddler explores using movement, space and materials. He or she demonstrates initiative and curiosity, learning through discovery, imitation, repetition and interactive play.

**Did You Know?** Best practices for early childhood movement include planning based on knowledge of toddlers’ and families’ interests and needs. The caregiver observes toddlers’ development and interests and talks with family to understand their routines, beliefs and care giving practices. He or she uses this information to plan learning opportunities embedded in the daily routine as well as structured activities or movement experiences that extend the observed curiosity and creativity. He or she selects toys and materials based on developmental and individual appropriateness. Caregiver observes how children interact with equipment and environment to plan unique learning opportunities and activities.

**TODDLERS**