

SCARF ACTIVITIES

Scarves are a wonderful and endlessly creative material that can be used with young children of various ages. There are many benefits to using them. Sharron Krull, on her website (Sharin' with Sharron, Streamer Ribbons and Scarves, May 17, 2017

Sharinwithsharron.wordpress.com/category/musical-activities-for-young-children/), lists the following objectives and learning outcomes:

Promotes cross-lateral movements (midline development)

Develops body and spatial awareness

Directionality

Laterality

Gross and fine motor coordination

Eye-hand coordination

Moderate to vigorous physical activity

Agility

Flexibility

Listening skills

Cooperative play

Creativity

Imagination

Scarves can be used in so many creative ways to explore movement possibilities. Sharron Krull has compiled the following list:

- Up and down
- Side to side
- In a circle
- In a figure 8
- Above your head
- Below your knees
- Between your legs
- At your side
- In front of you
- Behind you
- Like a broom (moving it side to side in front of body)
- Like a fishing pole (casting or throwing it out in front of body)
- Like a hammer (moving it up and down with quick wrist movements)
- Like ocean waves (shaking it in front of body)
- Like a rainbow (moving it in an arc from one side of body to the other)
- Like a river (dragging it across the floor or ground)
- Like tree branches in a windstorm (hold it above the head, swaying from side to side)
- Like a tornado (spinning around and raising and lowering it)

GROSS MOTOR MOVEMENTS

Use the scarves to engage the whole body.

*Toss the scarf up and practice catching it. This can be done in varying levels of challenge with the scarf bunched up in a ball or opened up. Try counting higher and higher before catching the scarf. This can also be done with a partner, throwing one scarf back and forth, or even two scarves at the same time.

*Use the scarves when dancing to accompany music. Multicultural music from around the world can be used (i.e. Chinese instrumental music), as well as classical music.

*Freeze Dance: Put recorded music on and have children do free form dancing. When music stops (pause), children freeze until the music starts again.

JUGGLING SCARVES, SIMPLE VERSION

Children can start out with just one scarf tossing it in the air and catching it with the same hand. With two scarves, one in each hand, older children can throw one scarf up while passing the other scarf to the opposite and empty hand. Immediately following, the child will catch the scarf coming down with the now empty hand. This makes a circle motion.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Let children take turns being the leader moving around the room or simply staying in one place (In his or her "bubble space").

GAME: TAILS

This is a running and chasing game that can be played with a group of children. Each child has one scarf, which is tucked into clothing at the back of the waist to be used as a "tail." It is a variation on a tag game, but instead of tagging, children pull each other's tails and drop them on the ground. When this happens, the child whose tail is off goes to a "tail repair area" (a designated location to put the tail back on). After that, the child may rejoin the game. This can be done while recorded music is playing or not.

DRAMATIZATION

*Stories

*Verses/Poems

*Songs

TELL A STORY

Use the scarves as props intermittently through the story in response to certain words. For example, use the scarves for water, wind, clouds, wagging animal tails, wings on butterflies or birds, a rainbow, tree branches, etc..

MORE IDEAS:

POPCORN SONG (Sung to the tune of "Frere Jacques")

Version 1

Popcorn kernels, popcorn kernels (wave scarves overhead)

In the pot, in the pot. (Tell the children to make their scarves 'disappear' by bunching them up in their fists.)

Shake them, shake them, shake them, (Repeat) (Shake the scarf strongly.)

Until they POP! Until they POP! (Toss scarf up into the air.)

Version 2 (www.futurelibrariansuperhero.com)

Popcorn kernels, popcorn kernels (wave scarf all around)

Put them in a pot. Put them in a pot. (Make the scarf into a very small ball held in both hands.)

Shake (12 times) (Shake the scarf energetically.)

Watch them pop! Watch them pop! (Throw the scarf up in the air on "pop".)

ALL THE FISH ARE SWIMMING IN THE WATER

Miss Jen the Librarian (YouTube)

Dany Rosevear (YouTube)

All the fish are swimming in the water, swimming in the water,
Swimming in the water.

All the fish are swimming in the water,

Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble, POP!

All the little fish are dipping and they're diving...

All the dolphins are jumping in the water....

All the sharks are hungry for their dinner....

Great big whales are spouting in the water....

All the ducks are paddling in the water....

All the children are splashing in the water....

WAVE YOUR SCARF

www.jbrary.com

Sung to the tune of "London Bridges"

(Sing and give directions of what to do with the scarf each time.)

Wave your scarf up and down...

Wave your scarf from side to side....

Wave your scarf round and round....

Twirl your scarf in front of you....

Throw your scarf up in the air....

(Make up other movements.)

DANCING SCARF BLUES

www.macaronisoup.com/songs/dancing-scarf-blues.htm

TWO LITTLE BLACKBIRDS

Two little Blackbirds sitting on a hill (wave scarves)

One named Jack, and the other named Jill.

Fly away, Jack (hide one behind back).

Fly away, Jill (hide other one behind back).

Come back, Jack, come back, Jill.

Two little Blackbirds sitting on a cloud.

One was quiet, and the other was **loud**.

Fly away quiet, **fly away loud**.

Come back quiet, **come back loud**.

Two little Blackbirds sitting on my toe,

One was high (wave scarf high),

The other was low (wave scarf low).

Fly away high, fly away low.

Come back high, come back low.

Two little Blackbirds sitting on my hat,

One was round (wave scarf in a circle),

The other was flat (stretch scarf tightly).

Fly away round, fly away flat.

Come back round, come back flat.

Two little Blackbirds sitting on a stick,

One was slow (wave scarf slowly),

The other was quick (wave scarf quickly).

Fly away slow, fly away quick.

Come back slow, come back quick.

OTHER SONGS THAT CAN BE USED WITH SCARVES

Rainbow Round Me; Butterfly, Butterfly; Sunny Day; My Hat

ON YOUTUBE

Scarf Song: Kids Educational Song: Jamaroo Kids (My Hat song adapted)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0DoTzxhS5k>

Shoo Fly: Kids Educational Song: Jamaroo Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gd7oZRP3Hw>

Bird Scarf Dance, Summer Arts Camp 2010, Settlement Music School

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS_PiJyzNdA

AMAZON: DerKit 28 Pieces Square Silk Juggling Scarves for beginners, magic tricks, musical performance, props, accessories, 24 X 24 inches, \$12.59

Look for a range of colors including black and white.