



## Toddler Movement Scarves

### Here's What You Get!

- 6 Toddler Movement Scarves
- Teacher's Activity Guide

### Introduction:

According to the National Association for the Education of Young Children, good toys for young children are ones that "match their stages of development and emerging abilities." Even though the Toddler Movement Scarves are sized for very young children (ages birth–36 months), they are also ideal for preschool children (ages 3–5 years).

Each Toddler Movement Scarf has three colorful, 12" square sheer scarves securely attached to a hook and loop wrist band. Our scarves offer an age-appropriate version of streamer ribbons for toddlers. They help young children develop gross and fine motor skills, promote moderate to vigorous physical activity and boost brain development.

### Use Toddler Movement Scarves to address these Developmental Guidelines from POCET™ Infant and Toddler\*

- Playing simple pretend games
- Playing Peek-A-Boo
- Responding to simple directions and questions
- Participating in a variety of large-muscle activities
- Beginning to run and attempting to jump

- Beginning to sing words of songs
- Participating in musical activities

\*POCET™ Infant and Toddler Developmental Support Tool is available online at: [www.DiscountSchoolSupply.com](http://www.DiscountSchoolSupply.com)

### Suggested Activities

#### Floating Scarves:

Age Level: Birth–18 months

Lay baby on his back and move the scarves above his face. Slowly move your hand up and down, in circles and to the right and left. This activity promotes visual tracking.

#### Peek-A-Boo:

Age Level: Birth–18 months

Sit on the floor with baby, and hang the scarves in front of your face. Move the scarves out of the way and say, "Peek-a-boo!" Do this a few times. Next, try covering the baby's face with the scarves. Stop immediately if the baby shows any sign of disliking this. Move the scarves out of the way and say, "Peek-a-boo!" In addition to being a fun activity, peek-a-boo teaches babies the concept of object permanence, an understanding that naturally tends to occur for babies between the ages of 4 and 12 months. A baby learns that even if something is out of sight, it still exists.

**Toddler Movement Scarves** (continued)**Peek-A-Toy:**

Ages: 8–18 months

Sit on the floor with baby. Cover a toy with the scarves and say, "Where's the toy?" Encourage baby to find the toy by pulling off the scarves. This activity promotes eye-hand coordination and fine motor skills.

**Tunnel of Colors:**

Age Level: 8–18 months

Attach scarves to a chair to create a tunnel for baby to crawl through. This encourages gross motor development.

**Movement Exploration:**

Age Level: 2–5 years

Encourage children to use their imaginations with the scarves. They can be a tail on a horse, a butterfly, a falling leaf, etc. The children can run with it and pretend it's a kite. Have them look at the world through the tint of the fine mesh fabric. Ask questions, such as, "What do you see?" and "What else can you do with your scarf?" Movement exploration allows children to problem-solve, explore spatial relationship skills and use their large muscles.

**Scarf Dancing:**

Age Level: 2–5 years

Play some music and get children's bodies moving. With a scarf in their hand or around their wrist, encourage them to dance and move about freely in an open space. Suggest to the

children that they move the scarf fast, slow, high, low, side to side and all around. Tell them that when the music stops, they are to stop and freeze (stand motionless like a statue). When the music starts again, children can resume dancing. Have them follow along as you swish a scarf in front of your body, make figure eights in the air, circle it like a Ferris wheel or like a helicopter blade. Try to trick the dancers by starting and stopping the music quickly. They will love the element of surprise! Use all different types of music: fast, slow, classical, rock, salsa, etc. When playing a slow song, suggest the children twirl, leap and float to the music. Scarf dancing promotes cross-lateral movements (crossing the midline) and develops body and space relationships, agility, flexibility and listening skills.

**Run Like the Wind:**

Age Level: 2–5 years

"On your mark, get set, GO!" Have children run from one boundary to another with their scarf in their hand or on their wrist. Challenge them to go as fast as they can to keep their scarf blowing in the wind. Running is a locomotor skill and a form of vigorous physical activity that increases the heart rate while improving fitness.

## Toddler Movement Scarves (continued)

### Musical Follow the Leader:

Age Level: 2–5 years

Play "Follow the Leader" set to music. Have the children stand in a line, one person behind the other. When the music starts, the child at the head of the line does a movement with the scarf, and all children move their scarf in the same way (i.e., waving the scarf overhead, swinging arms back and forth, jumping with the scarf, galloping with the scarf, etc.). When the music stops, the child who was at the front of the line goes to the back and the next child at the front of the line becomes the leader. Start the music again and continue the game until everyone has had a chance to be the leader.

### Tails:

Age Level: 3–8 years

Have the children tuck a Toddler Movement Scarf into their waistband in back. The scarf is now their tail. Play some music and tell the children to run in the available space. The game is played like tag, but instead of tagging each other, children pull each others' scarves off and drop them on the ground. When the children lose their scarf (tail), they should return to the designated "tail repair area" (a door, tree, etc.) to refasten the scarf to their waistband. Once the scarf is secure again, the children return to the game and resume pulling tails (scarves). The game ends when the music stops. This group game encourages cooperative play, vigorous physical activity and lots of laughter!

### Shake to My Lou:

Ages: 2–5 years

Use the scarf as you sing the following song and perform the corresponding movements.

"Shake to My Lou"

(Sing to the tune "Skip to My Lou")

(Shake scarf in front of body.)

Shake, shake, shake to my Lou,  
Shake, shake, shake to my Lou,  
Shake, shake, shake to my Lou,  
Shake to my Lou my darling.

(Shake scarf overhead, then down by feet.)

Shake up high, shake down low,  
Shake up high, shake down low,  
Shake up high, shake down low,  
Shake to my Lou my darling.

(Shake scarf on one side of body and then the other.)

Shake to the right, shake to the left,  
Shake to the right, shake to the left,  
Shake to the right, shake to the left,  
Shake to my Lou my darling.

(Shake scarf with arms extended to the sides and bring arms together in front of body.)

Shake it out, shake it in,  
Shake it out, shake it in,  
Shake it out, shake it in,  
Shake to my Lou my darling.

## Toddler Movement Scarves (continued)

### Suggested Reading:

Use these books to enhance children's interest in movement and active play.

- *Move!* by Robin Page and Steve Jenkins
- *From Head to Toe* by Eric Carle
- *Dancing Feet!* by Lindsey Craig
- *How Do You Wokka-Wokka?*  
by Elizabeth Bluemle
- *Quick as a Cricket* by Audrey Wood
- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *Dinosaurumpus!* by Tony Mitton
- *Clap Your Hands* by Lorinda Bryan Cauley
- *Jamerry* by Bruce Degen
- *Silly Sally* by Audrey Wood