Hello to all our friends and families in 1500B. As we near the end of our “school year”, it has been a challenging educational time for parents, children and teachers. Some of you may have older children and are now teachers at home by distance learning. We appreciate your efforts to engage with your child at this difficult time in education. Hopefully our ideas in our newsletters have been helpful to you.

One activity that we have available to the children on a daily basis is water play. Water play promotes the development of fine and gross motor skills, mathematics, science inquiry, language and creativity. It also has a calming effect on children and develops the ability to concentrate on one activity at a time. This is extremely important in today’s world where there are so many distractions and so much stimulation from different sources.

We hope you and your child find the following activities enjoyable and fun. Please remember to never leave a child unattended around any type of water.

- If you don’t have a small basin for your child to use, just fill up your sink with some warm water (4-5 inches) and provide a small stool or chair so they can reach the sink. Give your child various sized containers so they can pour water into each other. They will discover that two full small containers of water can fit inside one larger container. Three small containers of water may make the larger container overflow. When discussing with your child your observations, use words like full, empty, overflow to expand their language. (Math, Fine/Gross Motor, Language)

- Collect various objects around the house that you can put into the water (toys, cups, balls, stones, sponges, etc.). Have your child first guess what he/she thinks the objects will do - either sink or float. Then let them test their answer by putting the object into the water. Discuss what happened. “Why do you think the object didn’t float?” Discuss with the child what happened and why. Use words like heavy, dense, light, sink. (Math, Fine/Gross Motor, Language)

- After either activity just let your child play with the objects without any direction from you. Water play is an open-ended activity that allows your child to use his/her imagination any way they want. Just sit back enjoy a beautiful mind at work! (Creativity)

Well that’s all for now. We miss you all and wish you continued good health. We look forward to things getting back to “normal”. Have a great week!

Ms. Ray and Ms. Anne