#### DAY 1

# Exploring Together: Pretty Ponds (p.4)

• "Down by the Pond"

- "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book, prepared (see p. 27)
- Blue blanket or bed sheet (if blue is not available, any color will work)

# Center/Small Group:

Pond Building 101 (p.5)

- Sand table, sand box or container of sand
- Water

# Center/Small Group:

Learning about Ponds (p. 5)

- Blue blanket or sheet (from p. 4 Exploring Together)
- Books about ponds and pond life (see the Book List on p. 31 for suggestions)

#### Infants:

A Pretty Pond (p. 5)

- Fingerpaint paper cut into an oval shape
- Blue and green fingerpaint
- Sponge, water, tape

#### DAY 2

# **Exploring Together:** Pond Plants (p. 6)

 "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book

- Blue blanket/sheet (or other color) from yesterday
- A cattail (real or artificial if you happen to have one)
- Torn pieces of newspaper

# Center/Small Group:

Clean the Water (p. 7)

- Kitchen strainers, tongs, large slotted spoons, bowls, etc. (see p. 7)
- Plastic Easter grass (put out of the reach of children when done with the activity)
- Water table or container of water

# Center/Small Group:

Tall, Tall Cattails (p. 7)

- Old newspapers, soft, brown art materials (see p. 7)
- Glue in shallow dishes & old paintbrushes, tape
- OPTIONAL: Yardstick or tape measure

#### Infants:

Shake It! (p. 7)

 Pond sensory bottle (see p. 7 for preparation directions)

#### DAY 3

# **Exploring Together:**

Rocks and Stones (p. 8)

- "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book
- Assorted rocks and stones in a bag or box (not a choking hazard)

# Center/Small Group:

Rocks and Ripples (p. 9)

- Rocks and stones (from Exploring Together)
- Water table or container of water

# Center/Small Group: Ripple Art (p. 9)

- Assorted circular size jar lids, paper/plastic cups
- White paper, crayons/ markers OR paint and paintbrushes
- Photo of ripples (use Google Images to help you)

#### Infants:

The Stone is... (p. 9)

 Large rocks or stone that is SAFE to explore with an infant

#### DAY 4

# **Exploring Together:**

Sliding Across the Water (p. 10)

• "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book

# Center/Small Group:

On the Water. In the Water. (p. 11)

- Assorted items for exploring sink & float (see p. 11 for suggestions)
- Water table or container of water

# Center/Small Group:

Oil and Water Art (p. 11)

- Baking pan with sides, eyedropper or medicine dropper
- Thick white paper
- Food coloring
- Cooking oil
- Small dish
- Cookie rack (or art drying rack)
- Paper towels
- Water

#### Infants:

Floating on Water (p.11)

- Tub or bowl of water
- Plastic lids (large enough not to be a choking hazard)
- Small towel

#### DAY 5

# **Exploring Together:**

Tiny Tadpoles (p. 12)

• "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book

# Center/Small Group:

Fingerprint Tadpole Art (p. 13)

- Brown or black paintsoaked sponges or folded paper towels in shallow dishes
- Light blue construction paper, green art tissue OR construction paper
- Gluesticks or glue in shallow dishes and old paintbrushes

# Center/Small Group:

What Happens Next? (p. 13)

• Frog Sequencing Cards (see p. 13 for details)

#### Infants:

Touch the Tadpole (p. 13)

 Tadpole Sensory Bag (see p. 13 for preparation details)

#### DAY 6

# **Exploring Together:**

Hippity Hop (p. 14)

- "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book
- Plush, plastic or toy frog (if one is available)
- Frog Sequencing Cards (p. 13)

## Center/Small Group:

Hop! Hop! Hop! Then... Stop! (p. 15)

• Recorded music

# Center/Small Group:

Count the Croaks (p. 15)

• Numbered index cards (0-10)

#### Infants:

See the Froggie (p.15)

- Plush, plastic or rubber frog
- Small blanket

#### DAY 7

# **Exploring Together:**

Fish in the Pond (p. 16)

- "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book
- Construction paper fish in a paper bag (1 fish for each color) - See p. 16 for details.

# Center/Small Group:

A "Fishy" Snack (p. 17)

- Fish-shaped crackers
- Paper plate for each child

# Center/Small Group:

Fish Underwater (p. 17)

- Fish stencils (see p. 17 for details)
- Large sheets of white paper
- Thinned blue paint in shallow dishes (or blue watercolors)
- Paintbrushes
- Blue painter's tape

#### Infants:

My Beautiful Fish (p. 17)

- White paper cut in a large fish shape (one for each infant)
- Wide, washable markers

#### DAY 8

# **Exploring Together:**

Who Lives in that Shell? (p. 18)

- "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book
- Metal or plastic mixing bowl (that you cannot see through)
- Small toys or other items that fit under the bowl

# Center/Small Group:

Turtle Fun (p. 19)

• Pillows (1 per child)

# Center/Small Group:

"The Tortoise and the Hare" (p. 19)

 Copy of the book, "The Tortoise and the Hare" OR access to a computer/table for watching a read-aloud recording

# Infants:

It's a Turtle! (p.19)

• Plush or plastic turtle that is safe for an infant

#### DAY 9

# **Exploring Together:**

What is Flying by the Pond? (p. 20)

• "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book

# Center/Small Group:

Dump It Out! (p. 21)

None needed

# Center/Small Group:

My Own Dragonfly Wings (p. 21)

- Paper grocery bag for each child cut into a vest (see p. 33 for directions)
- Large sheets of white paper
- Crayons/markers
- Assorted art/collage materials (see p. 21 for suggestions)

# Infants:

Learning about the Pond (p.21)

 Books about the pond (see the Book List on p. 31 for suggestions)

#### **DAY 10**

# **Exploring Together:**

Pond Fun Day! (p. 22)

- Water table or container of water
- Rocks (large enough to be safe for children and not a choking hazard) + plastic frogs, turtles, fish, etc.
- Sprinkler, children's bathing suits, towels (IF warm enough in your area)
- Books about the pond and pond animals
- Materials to play games chosen by the children (see p. 22)

# Center/Small Group:

I Am Pretending to Be... (p. 23)

 Large blue blanket or sheet (from earlier in the unit...any color will work if you do not have blue)

# Center/Small Group:

Can You Answer My Riddles? (p. 23)

• "Down by the Pond" Riddle Book

#### Infants:

All Together Now (p. 23)

None needed

# Materials List - "Pond Friends" Unit

#### SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

I Went to the Pond and I Saw... (p.24)

 Books about ponds and pond life (fiction & nonfiction) - See Book List, p. 31

## SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

A Healthy Pond (p. 24)

Access to a computer or tablet

#### SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

Exploring Surface Tension (p.25)

- Pie plate or other shallow pan
- Water
- Dish soap
- Paper clip
- Black pepper

#### SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

Freshwater vs. Saltwater (p. 25)

Access to a computer or tablet

#### SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

My Pond Diorama (p. 26)

- Shoe box for each child
- Assorted art/collage materials (see p. 26)
- Tape
- Glue in shallow dishes and old paintbrushes and/or gluesticks

#### SCHOOL-AGE ACTIVITY

Colorful Dragonflies (p. 26)

- Pinch-type clothespin for each child
- Aluminum foil, construction paper, colored art tissue, sequins, chenille stems, plastic beads, etc.

NOTE: If space allows, we will list crayons/markers, tape, scissors, white paper, construction paper, etc. If space is tight, these materials will be listed in the lesson plans but not on this Materials List. **Items listed in red may require advanced preparation or just some time to locate/gather.** 

# ITEMS TO COLLECT/PURCHASE

- Lots of plastic/rubber frogs, turtles, fish (and plush ones if you have them)
- Blue blanket or bed sheet
- Plastic Easter grass
- A cattail (real or artificial from the craft store)
- Rocks & stones (large enough not to be a choking hazard)
- Fish-shaped crackers
- Paper grocery bag (one for each child)

# LET PARENTS/GUARDIANS KNOW...

You will need plastic/rubber/plush frogs, fish and turtles so they can send some in if they have them.

Also let them know will need paper grocery bags (and shoe boxes if doing the schoolage diorama activity)

Your Own Notes Regarding Materials Needed

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