

Theme: Ponds Part 1

Date: September 11, 2020

Welcome back, StrongStart friends,

As we are preparing to open the StrongStart classrooms on Monday, September 21st, we understand that some families have made the decision to remain at home. For this reason, we will continue to send out StrongStart emails twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays). These emails will consist of art activities, books, circle times, outdoor activities, songs and more! So, here goes our first one for the school year! This post is put together by Ms. Linda (Grenfell) 😊

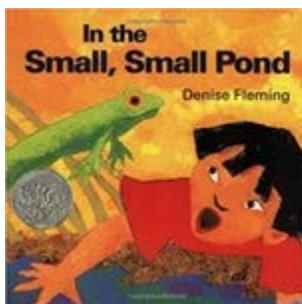
Do you live by a pond? A pond is an area filled with water, either natural or artificial, that is smaller than a lake. If you do not live close to a pond, let's make one together at home!

A Pond at Home

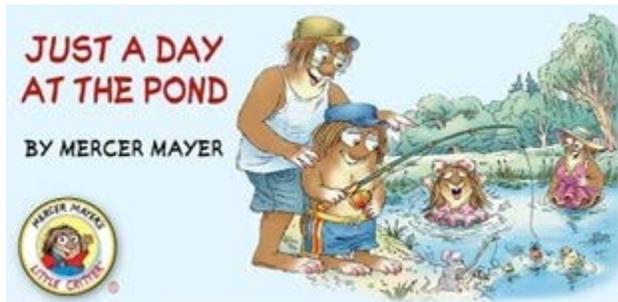
- Materials: a flat tray, gravel, soil, large stones and some water plants like pondweed
- Cover the bottom of the tray with gravel and some stones. Use a larger stone as an "island" in the center.
- Carefully fill the tray with water.
- Add plants and use stones to weigh them down. You can also plant them in little pots.
- Observe the pond over a few days. Notice the growth of the plants. See if you get any animals or bugs visiting your homemade pond!



Here are a couple of books to read about pond life:



- **In the Small, Small Pond** by Denise Fleming - <https://youtu.be/KiAG62sE5eo>



- **Just a Day at the Pond** by Mercer Mayer - <https://youtu.be/ySCrSNcZw5A>

When you are done reading the books, let's sing a song about ponds! It's called "Let's Go Out to the Pond" (to the tune Take Me Out To the Ballgame).

*Let's go out to the pond.
Let's go look all around.
I see some frogs and some tadpoles, too.
I see some ducks and a turtle or two!
And I see some fishies a-swimming.
Dragonflies hover and soar.
So let's go outside to the pond
And let's go explore!*

Now, let's join Ms. Linda for an infant toddler circle time where she sings and reads a book called "Mockingbird Song" by Carol Thompson - <https://youtu.be/5zon51PfGks>

Stay tune for the second part of our Ponds emails and find out what lives in the ponds! 😊 You will also be hearing from your centres next week about how to pre-register your visits. Have a great weekend!

