



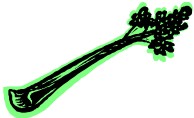
July Share-Ideas Page A Great Time for Sun, Sand and Sea

July is vacation time at the park or the beach. A picnic in the yard or a tent under a tree, a wading pool with water or sand gives hours of summer fun to youngsters. Our son was five years old one summer at the beach. We had great fun writing the alphabet in the wet sand with our fingers. Many classrooms keep a sand and water table available for children all year. Sand and water play are wonderful ways to encourage creativity. Children dip and pour sand into different size containers. They make roads for small cars and tracks in the sand for trains. Sand play is always changing and challenging. When we were learning about the letter "S" we turned a corner of our room into a sand box and a sandy beach. We discovered many words beginning with "S". This adventure became, My "S" Book.

Have A Fourth of July Fun Parade



Help your child decorate a wagon, or a bike for a Fourth of July parade down the sidewalk or around the block. Our Country's birthday is a good time for children to celebrate with a birthday cake for America. This is also a good time to make a flag with colored paper, markers, and tiny stars.



Enjoy A Summer Tasting Party



So many plants are growing in gardens in the summer. It is a perfect time for tasting parties. You can taste the six different parts of plants, the roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruit, and seeds. Arrange your tasting party with tiny pieces of food for children to sample and taste. One tasting party I attended included: small round carrots, little squares of celery, tiny broccoli trees, baby lettuce leaves, strawberry slices with the seeds and circles of bananas with the tiny seeds inside each circle. The children had lots of fun. They even went on a walk and found the biggest plant of all, a large tree. They gave the tree a hug.

