

ACTIVITIES

Mermaid Scales (Babies)

Cut mermaid scale shapes out of foam sheets (circles or rounded arches). Optionally, add glitter glue for extra texture and sparkle. Arrange them on the floor like scales. Let babies explore.



Image source: Shutterstock

Glitter Mermaid Sensory/ Calming Bottles (Babies/ Toddlers)

These mesmerizing sensory bottles are great for calming for babies and toddlers. You can also use resealable plastic bags, as long as they are double bagged and reinforced with tape. You will need blue glitter glue, water, two drops of blue liquid watercolor, and flake glitter. Mix with a whisk before adding to bottles or bags. Adjust proportions as desired. More recipe ideas here: <https://bit.ly/3vXcUTe>



Image source: Joelle Wake of Whiting Public Library, Whiting, IN

Movement Activity: Mermaid Tails (Toddlers/Preschool)

Each child will need a pair of old sweatpants or leggings. Have the child place both legs in one hole. Tuck in the other leg at the waist. Use sparkly duct tape to secure the waistband to size. Children try balancing and moving around like a mermaid. Note: For younger children, put the leggings nearer to the knee to allow for easier balance and more movement.

Mermaid Worksheets (Toddlers/Preschool)

See Printables for simple worksheets. The mermaid puzzle could be enlarged and laminated for reuse.

GAME/ACTIVITY

Movement: Ocean Yoga Poses (Toddler/Preschool)

Run ocean themed yoga poses as a group. Be a dolphin with dolphin pose, a surfer with warrior 2 pose, a fish with locust post, a turtle with child's pose. Have chairs available. You can also have children pretend to be their favorite sea creatures. See *Maria Explores the Ocean: A Kids Yoga Book* (2015) by Giselle Shardlow for more ideas.



Image source: Shutterstock

Me Gusta Más (Preschool)

Great for strengthening letter recognition, vocabulary, and narrative skills. Show vocabulary words on cardstock. Add a picture to each card if desired. Show two words/pictures at a time, and ask children to tell you which one they like better and why.

In Spanish, they would answer:

Me gusta más _____ que _____ porque _____.
(I like _____ better than _____ because _____.)

No me gusta _____ porque _____.
(I don't like _____ because _____.)

Mar y Tierra Game (Preschool)

You draw a line on the ground. One side is *la mar* (ocean) the other side is *la tierra* (land). The kids line up on the "tierra" side. The leader yells the side they need to jump into. The only words they move to are "mar" or "tierra." If someone ends up in the wrong place, they are out. You can also turn this into a Zoom meeting game. Place a stick to divide the screen into two, and ask the children to jump to one side of the screen or the other. You can use different words to confuse the audience like "marinero" instead of mar or "terrestre" instead of tierra. Have fun!

Printables

- Mermaid Silhouette
- Mermaid Coloring Sheet
- Mermaid Puzzle Game

VOCABULARY:

- Pirata (pirate) or marinero (sailor)
- Tiburón (shark) or ballena (whale)
- La noche (night) or el día (day)
- Barco (boat) or canoa (canoe)
- La playa (beach) or la ciudad (city)
- El ruido (noise) or el silencio (silence)
- Sandia (watermelon) or helado (ice cream)



Puzzle game



