

ACTIVITY TIME

Warna-Manda Baby Earth Walk

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Touch the earth

Connect to the earth with your baby, just like Warna Manda baby. Feel the earth between your toes, talking about all the sensations.

You will need:

- Clean sand
- Sand pit, or a large tray
- Water
- Sticks.

Ideas

The aim of the activity is to promote conversation, utilising language found in the book wherever possible. It's never too early to talk to your baby and tell them all about the things in their world.

As a sensory activity: Sit with your baby in the sandpit and encourage them to wriggle their toes in the sand. Talk to your baby about how the sand feels on their toes. Use words such as heavy, light, ticklish, nice, rough, smooth, or soft.

You can try out more sensory experiences by:

- Teaching your baby the difference between dry and wet sand. While doing this, talk to your baby using words such as "wet" and "dry", "cool" or "warm".
- Pouring sand on their hands and feet so they can feel the sensation it causes.

Extension for older babies: Make marks in the sand using objects like a stick. Talk about the shapes, patterns and styles of markings, straight or zig zag, curved or wavy etc.

Songs to sing

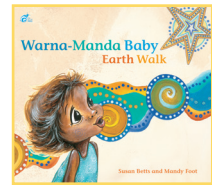
Oh Mr Sun <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NdhcYnC-V8>

Rain is falling down <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAea9WRxFY0>

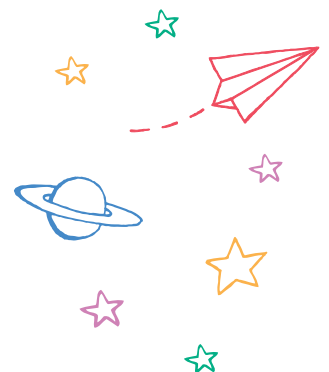
Autumn leaves are falling down https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQmqZF_nWkE

Key message:

Children are born ready to learn.



Adult supervision is essential. Involve and talk with your child as much as possible.



Warna Munda

Warna-Munda baby,
listen to the sea.
Hear the waves go splish! ... splash!
Gently swaying free.

Warna-Munda baby,
feel the earth below.
Feel the sand in your hands,
And in between your toes.

Warna-Munda baby,
see the wind blow.
See the leaves in the tree,
Rustling to and fro.

Warna-Munda baby,
now it's time to sleep.
Shh ... dreaming ... dreamtime,
Sleep, baby, sleep.

SING TO THE TUNE OF INCY WINCY SPIDER

Susan Betts is an author and artist from the
Mirning and Wirangu people of the
Far-West Coast of South Australia, where
'Warna-Munda' means 'Sea-Earth'.

