



Today's Featured Activity: Shadow Art!

As the days get longer there will be more opportunity to be outside in the sunshine. What better way to take advantage of it than by playing with shadows and light?!

If you have a paved driveway or patio, or a sidewalk nearby your house, head outside on a sunny day and look at your shadow. What do you notice about it? How do you have to stand in order to see your shadow in front of you? Where is the sun in relation to how your facing? Here are a few fun shadow activities you can do outside.

1. If you have sidewalk chalk, create a human sundial art project! Starting on a sunny morning in a wide-open area that gets a lot of sun, mark an "X" on the ground and have your child stand there. Draw your child's shadow with sidewalk chalk. Come back every few hours, having them stand on the "X" and drawing where their shadow is now. When is their shadow longer, or shorter? Any ideas why?
2. If you don't have sidewalk chalk, you can still do this project with a piece of paper and a toy (Legos work great) or rock tall enough to cast a shadow. Starting out early in the morning, place the paper down on the ground,

adding something to the corners to hold it in place. Place a toy in the middle of the paper and draw the shadow over the course of a few hours.

If you can't get outside, or it's not a particularly sunny day, try creating shadow art indoors.

1. Gather toys, or build a Lego structure, or a grape sculpture. Place the items in front of a bright window or a bright lamp. Put a piece of paper on the table and trace the shadows, use these as a background for a picture or the start of a story.

2. Another great rainy day or evening activity is to create a shadow puppet theater! Cut out nature shapes from construction paper and tape them to popsicle sticks, chopsticks, or a piece of sturdy cardboard. Get in front of a solid, light-colored wall, or set up a sheet to "project" onto. Using a strong flashlight or lamp without a shade, create shadow stories with your animal shapes.

Did you do this activity? Post a photo on Instagram and tag @clctrust or use #clctrust.

Have suggestions for activities you'd like to see? [Send us an email!](#)

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