



The InvestiGator Club™ Prekindergarten Learning System

Investigations

PARENT'S
EDITION

Integrated Activities for Exploring, Experimenting,
and Making Discoveries

Wet and Wonderful Water

The title "Wet and Wonderful Water" is written in a large, bold, black font with a white outline. The word "Water" is the largest and is positioned at the bottom. A magnifying glass with a black handle is positioned over the word "Water", with the lens focusing on the letters. The lens contains a grey, wavy shape representing water. Several grey, semi-transparent bubbles of various sizes are scattered around the text, particularly around the word "Water".

This Investigation is all about an everyday element that provides endless opportunities for making discoveries—water! It also happens to be one of Dilly Gator’s favorite things. After all, water is a big part of Dilly’s World. She lives on a houseboat at Triangle Beach, surrounded by water!

Part 1 Where Is Water?

To introduce *Wet and Wonderful Water*, tell your child that there’s a brand-new club around for preschoolers, and it’s called The InvestiGator Club. Explain that InvestiGators like to listen, explore, make discoveries, and learn new things. Introduce the InvestiGators and listen to The InvestiGator Club theme song by visiting [Meet Dilly and Friends](#), [Explore Dilly’s World](#), and [About The InvestiGator Club](#) on the Web site: www.investigatorclub.com. Then ask your child: *Would you like to become an InvestiGator?*

Say to your child: *During this Investigation you will learn all about water. You’ll do lots of exploring, lots of thinking, and lots of experimenting. You might get a little wet, but don’t worry—it’s only water! So, are you ready? Let’s investigate!*

Science/Language/Literacy

Your child will discover that water is in many different places—and will have fun finding it!

Materials

- a globe
- paper
- [Where Is Water? Activity Sheet](#)

Where Can We Find Water?

Start the Investigation by explaining how water is a big part of our world. Look at a globe together so your child can see how much of Earth is water. Then say:

I know someone whose house is surrounded by water—Dilly Gator. Dilly lives on a houseboat at Triangle Beach. She’s the one who started The InvestiGator Club. Let’s be detectives and look for all the places where we can find water in our home. Let’s also discover all the ways we use water.

- Take your child on a walk around the house and then outside to the yard in search of water. As each discovery is made, sing this song naming the water source. Sing these words to the tune of “Where Is Thumbkin?” or chant the words.

For example:

Where is water?

Where is water?

Here it is.

Here it is.

Water in the bird bath.

Water in the bird bath.

Cool and wet.

Cool and wet.

- After your search, ask your child to name the places where you discovered water together. List each place on paper. Point to the words as you read them to your child. Help your child think about the ways he or she uses water and why we all need water: for drinking, cleaning, washing hands, brushing teeth, watering plants, flushing the toilet, taking a bath, cooking, swimming, boating, and so on.
- On another day take your child on a walk around the neighborhood or on a drive in search of water. Add your child's new discoveries to your list. Post the list on the refrigerator door in the kitchen. As your child thinks about other places where water is found, add them to the list.
- Print a copy of the [Where Is Water? Activity Sheet](#). Help your child fill it out whenever water is discovered.

What I Saw	What It Was Like	What I Did
water in my cup	It was cold. It tasted good.	I drank it.
water in the lake	It was cold and dark.	I swam in it.
water in the hose	It came out fast!	I helped Mom water the bushes.

Language/Literacy/Fine Motor Skills

Your child learns to recognize the letter *Ww* and gets early writing practice.

Materials

- paper
- crayons
- shaving cream
- sand
- pan
- stick
- [Make Waves! Activity Sheet](#)

The Letter *Ww*



Tell your child that the word *water* starts with the letter *w*. Write *W* and *w* on paper. Point and say: *This is capital W. This is small w.* Show how to use a finger to trace the letters as you say: *Capital W looks like big pointy waves. Small w looks like little pointy waves. The word waves starts with w, too. Let's make a wave and say W.* Show your child how to make big and little waves in the air in the shape of *Ww*. Tell your child that one of the InvestiGators is Chuck Wood. Write his name on the paper and have your child find the letter *W*.

- Invite your child to be a *Ww* investigator. Look through storybooks or magazines together to find *Ww* in print.
- Start a list with the title, "W Words." Point out *W* at the beginning of *Words*. Does "words" begin with *w*? Write words that begin with *w* on the list: *water, wet, wall, worm, weather, window, world*, and so on. Have your child use a crayon to trace *w* in each word and say, for example, *w is for water, w is for wet.*
- Squirt shaving cream on a plate for your child to finger write *W*.
- Have your child mix sand or dirt with water and flatten it into a pan. Provide a stick to make lines in the sand to form *W*. Ask: *Are the lines straight or curved?*
- Print out the [Make Waves! Activity Sheet](#) to provide your child with more early writing practice.

Music/Literacy

Children learn the sound of *W* as they sing a familiar song.

The Sound of *W*

Your child will learn the sound of *W* while singing a familiar song.

Tell your child that the InvestiGators love to sing. Dilly's little brother, JT, plays all kinds of songs on his harmonica. Say: *Here's a song that will help you learn the sound of W.* Sing or recite the first verse of *Willoughby Wallaby Woo*.

Willoughby Wallaby Wee
An elephant sat on me.
Willoughby Wallaby Woo
An elephant sat on you.

- Say the words *Willoughby, Wallaby, Woo* for your child to repeat. Ask: *Do you hear the same sound at the beginning of each word? The words all begin with the sound /w/.*
- Show how you can change the first letter sound in a name to */w/*, such as *Dilly* becomes *Willy*. Sing or recite together new verses of the song using your child's name and family members' names. For example: *Willoughby Wallaby Wustin/An elephant sat on Justin./Willoughby Wallaby Waddy/An elephant sat on Daddy!*

Your child can be a budding author by writing and illustrating a book about water.

Materials

- paper
- crayons
- pictures from magazines showing people using water
- copies of [We Use Water Activity Sheet](#)

We Use Water

Tell your child: *Dilly's Great Auntie Lu is a great storyteller. You can be a storyteller, too. Let's write a story about water.*

- Help your child think of ways the family uses water: for washing, cooking, drinking, cleaning, playing, feeding pets, washing clothes, brushing teeth, and so on.
- Write a list of your child's ideas on paper by having him or her finish the sentence: *We use water to _____*. Examples are:



We use water to drink.

We use water to wash our hands.

We use water to play at the beach.

We use water to make soup.

We use water to water the plants.

- Print out copies of the [We Use Water Activity Sheet](#) to use as pages for a book. Help your child finish the sentence by copying words from the list you wrote together. Your child can draw or use magazine pictures to illustrate it. Do one page a day or involve other family members to make different pages.
- Your child can help make a cover page with the title *We Use Water*. Staple the pages together to make a book.
- Read the book together or let your child be the "storyteller."

Watery Chores

Family chores can turn into fun when water is involved!

Materials

- family message board or poster board
- variety of materials for chores involving water

Tell your child that the InvestiGators are very good helpers. They love to do their chores at the clubhouse and to help people all around Dilly's World. Point out that there are a lot of chores that use water that your child can help do. Make a list on your family message board or on poster board, such as the one below:

Wipe the table.

Change the water dish for our pet.

Water the plants.

Clean the sink.

Wash fruit.

Pour a glass of water to drink.

Help wash the car.

Help sort the laundry before washing.

Be sure to praise your child for being such a good helper!

**Oral Language/Literacy/
Music**

Rhythm and rhyme go together in this lively activity.

Materials

- drums and other homemade or “found” percussion instruments

Water Chant

Tell your child that one of the InvestiGators, Manny Salamander, is a city boy who loves to rap and rhyme. He often says, “Manny can. Yes, I’m your man.” Share the following rap about water with your child.

Water, water, in the sink

Water, water, take a drink.

Water, water, in the tub

Water, water, rub a dub dub.

Water, water, in the pool

Water, water, make me cool.

Water, water, on the floor

Water, water, give me more!

Encourage your child to chant along with you. Pause at the end of every other line for your child to supply the rhyming words. Then say the rap again while keeping a rhythm by clapping, tapping, or shaking an instrument such as an empty can filled with rice or dried beans. Maybe your child would like to add a new pair of rhyming lines.

**Social Studies/Math/Gross
Motor Skills**

Your little puddle-jumper won't have to wait for a rainy day to do this activity!

Materials

- globe
- construction paper
- sidewalk chalk

Puddle Jumpers

Tell your child that Dilly’s little brother, JT, loves geography. He knows about places all over the world.

- Look at a globe together and have your child find water. Ask: *What are the biggest bodies of water called? (oceans) What are some other bodies of water? (lakes, rivers, ponds)*
- Cut out four pieces of construction paper of different sizes. Have your child order them from biggest to smallest. Label them with the names of bodies of water, for example, *ocean, sea, lake, pond*. Encourage your child to use size words to make comparisons, for example: *A pond is smaller than a lake.*
- Tell your child this riddle: *I am thinking of a body of water that is very little. Sometimes you can find one outside after it rains. Can you guess what it is? (a puddle)* Go outdoors. Use chalk to draw ten “puddles” on the sidewalk that are small enough for your child to jump over. Label the “puddles” with the numerals 1–10. Ask your child to jump over the puddles while counting from 1 to 10.

**Health/Social & Emotional
Development/Oral Language**

Use this musical reminder with your child to promote proper hand washing.

Materials

- soap
- water

Healthy Hands

Tell your child that Bruno Buzzbee, the oldest member of the club, often gives the InvestiGators good advice and makes sure that they stay safe. One thing Bruno tells them is how important it is to wash your hands. Talk about what germs are, how they spread, and why it is important to wash your hands. (Germs can make you sick.) Stress how hands should be washed before eating or touching food; after using the bathroom; after blowing your nose; after touching animals; and after playing outside. Demonstrate proper hand-washing with soap and warm water. While lathering, invite children to sing the following song (to the tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush").

*This is the way we wash our hands
Wash our hands, wash our hands
This is the way we wash our hands
To keep them clean.*



Social Studies/Dramatic Play

Engage your child in a bit of role-playing while learning about important jobs involving water.

Materials

- props for dramatic play

Water Workers

Ask your child to think of workers that use water in their jobs. For example: firefighter, lifeguard, dishwasher, gardener, dolphin trainer, car washer, cook, pet groomer, and so on. Find props around the house for your child to role-play jobs involving water. For example, your child can:

- Use a gift wrap tube as a hose and pretend to be a firefighter putting out a fire.
- Tie a string to a long stick to make a fishing pole and pretend to be a fisher.
- Use plastic dishes and a sponge and pretend to be a dishwasher.
- Turn a giant box into a car and pretend to work at a car wash.
- Use a watering can and pretend to be a gardener watering plants.

You might want to visit a place in the community where water is an important part of the work, such as a car wash, nursery, aquarium, laundromat, restaurant, or hair salon. Ask your child to describe what he or she sees there.

Name _____

Where Is Water?

What I Saw	What It Was Like	What I Did

Investigation: Wet and Wonderful Water/Part 1

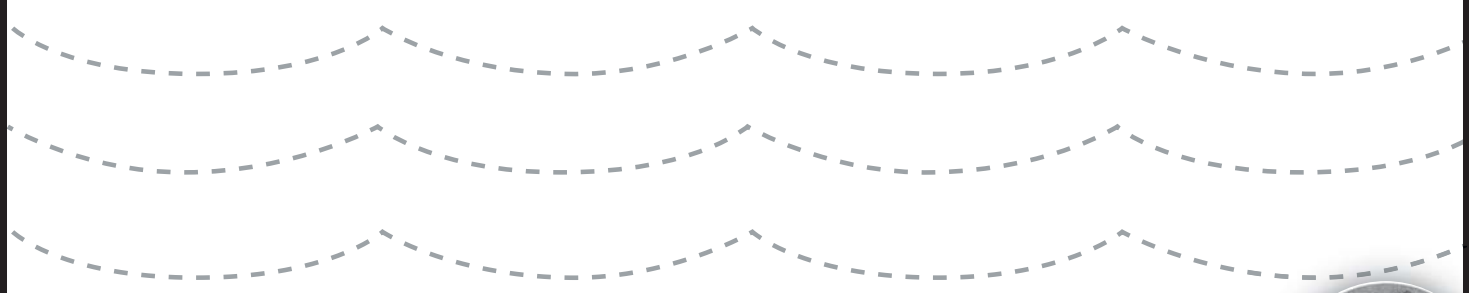
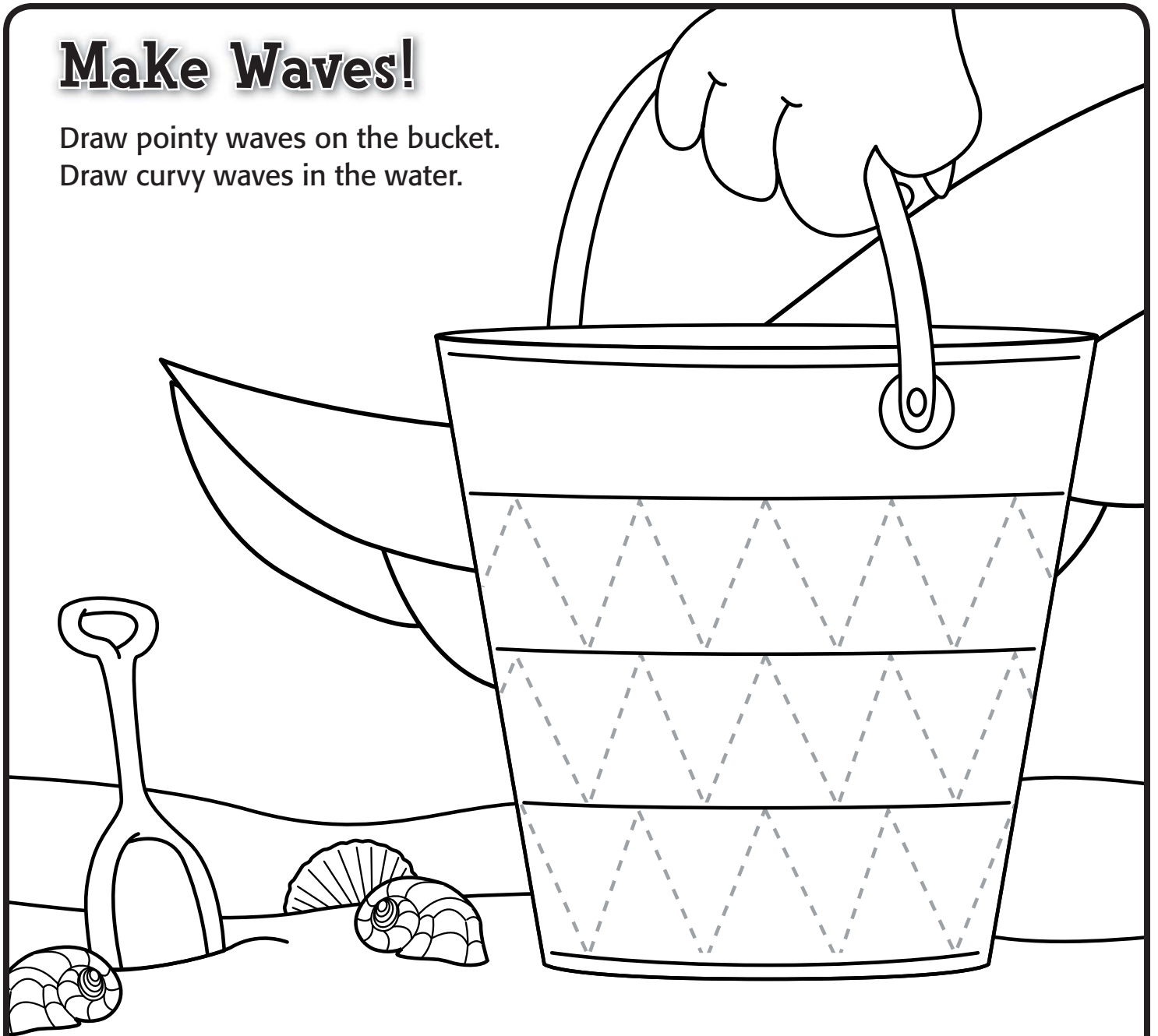
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Name _____

Make Waves!

Draw pointy waves on the bucket.
Draw curvy waves in the water.



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Name _____

We Use Water

Draw a picture to show how we use water.



We use water to _____

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