

the early learners box

JUNE 2021



a note for grownups

We are so excited for your child(ren) to experience the Early Learners Box.

While these activities do have certain objectives, remember there is no right or wrong way to engage with them. Let your child(ren) play freely with the materials available in each box. This will promote problem solving, imaginative play, exploration, and may just result in some brilliant ideas!

We hope your child(ren) enjoy the box! If you have any questions, please email us at hello@otter.ly

connect with us

hello@otter.ly

www.otter.ly

 [@otter.ly](https://www.instagram.com/otter.ly)

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Scan the QR code above or visit [otter.ly/elsub621](https://www.otter.ly/elsub621) to watch the video guides for this month's box including:

- Welcome + Unboxing
- A Video Guide for Grown-Ups
- Virtual Play Dates with Miss Anna

how does this box help?

Each Otterly Early Learners Box targets an array of essential developmental skills to meet your child where they are on their journey of becoming.

This month's box contains materials and mats that focus on:

- sensory input
- pattern recognition
- fine motor skills
- pre-writing practice
- grip strength
- hand-eye coordination
- object manipulation
- emotion recognition
- empathy
- facial mirroring

**To learn more, be sure to check out the grown-up guide video in which Miss Anna goes in depth about these skills! You can get to the video by scanning the QR code on the front of this brochure.*



"A child's play space can become the comfortable, therapeutic, and imaginative place where dreams are born."

-janet lansbury



setup guide

• **Spots + Stripes Mat:** Place the mat on your child's work tray as well as the wooden pattern chips and dry erase marker.

Side 1: Children can practice their pattern recognition skills by matching the wooden pattern chips to the correct pattern word (spots or stripes)

Side 2: Children can use the dry erase marker to trace the different spots and stripes patterns. This also provides an opportunity to talk about the variation you see in the patterns - how some spots are solid circles while others are just an outline; some lines are straight and others are wavy, etc.

• **Rice Tracing Mat:** Place the mat on your child's work tray along with the wooden dowel and black rice tracing tray. Show your child how to empty the rice into the tracing tray.

Side 1: Children are encouraged to practice writing their letters, numbers, and shapes by drawing them in the rice using the wooden dowel (you can also use a paintbrush for this)

Side 2: Children can draw the different emotion faces in the rice with their dowel, finger, or a paint brush. This may be a great activity to do in front of a mirror so they can also practice MAKING the emotion faces.