

# ideas by the Bushel



Here are some activities picked just for you to help your child learn more about Groundhog Day!

## ***Here's a Little Groundhog***



*Here's a little groundhog, furry and brown (raise thumb up)*

*He's coming up to look around (pop thumb up and move it around)*

*If he sees his shadow (put hand over eyes searching for something)*

*Down he'll go (hide thumb in fist)*

*Then six more weeks of winter—Oh No! (put up 6 fingers)*

**Shadow Dance/Matching Game:** Put on some of your child's favorite tunes and tell your child to "strike a pose" each time the music stops. Then, you make the same shape as your child just like their shadow does. Change roles and let your child copy the shape that you make when the music stops. Take this physical matching activity to a more cognitive level by playing a game where your child will match cards with the same pictures, numbers, or letters on them. You can purchase a set of these cards or create your own. These experiences will strengthen memory and discrimination skills!

**Measuring shadows:** Find a spot outside where the sun is shining on concrete- a sidewalk or a driveway will work just fine! Have your child pose in some way and then you trace their shadow with chalk. Every ½ to full hour, go back to the same spot and retrace your child's shadow to show them how the size changes depending where the sun is at different times of the day.

**Tunnel Time:** Create a tunnel using blankets or sheets draped over pieces of furniture. Climb into the tunnel with your child, like a groundhog, and bring with you a flashlight and some favorite books. Burrow in the tunnel enjoying books and making shadows on the coverings with your hands and the flashlights!