FINE MOTOR ACTIVITIES FOR 2 AND 3 YEAR OLDS:

**Things to do with water**. Before using the following two items to move water around talk about sink and float and collect a few items from around your house and “predict” whether they will sink or float. Let your child find two or three items themselves to try.

1. If you have sponges let them transfer water from one bowl to another using only the sponge. If you don’t have sponges you can use washcloths. If it is pretty outside you can even do this in the yard and let them have races from one bowl to another spreading the bowls apart.
2. If you have turkey basters use these to transfer the water from one to another.
3. Explore the different temperatures water can be with an ice transfer sensory tub. Set up a tub of warm water and a bucket of ice and let your kids scoop some ice into it. They’ll see how the water gets cooler as the ice melts, all while they’re having fun practicing their fine motor skills and splashing around in the water. They can use an ice cream scoop or just a regular spoon.
4. If you have an old alphabet puzzle (you can use numbers or shapes) put the pieces in the water let your child scoop each one out and match it to the puzzle. If you only have magnets have them match them to a self made puzzle.
5. Freeze a bowl of water overnight and put little plastic animals in it or any objects and then the next day take it out of the bowl and place the ice ball on a tray and let your child use salt water to melt the ice. They will uncover all of the items that you put in the ice. You can use spoons to pour on the salt or make salt water and let you child use an eyedropper or baster. They will love uncovering the items you have frozen.
6. If the weather permits take some old paint brushes outside and let them paint the sidewalk, house, or playset with water. They do this at school and love it.
7. If you have water colors at home let them just paint a picture on copy paper. If you don’t have any water colors make your own with food coloring.
8. If you have empty spray bottles fill it with water and let them spray things outside. Using the spray bottle builds the muscles in their hands. If you have a beach ball they can move the beach ball around the yard by spraying it with the spray bottle.

I hope that you are able to do some of these activities. I will be uploading some paper and pencil activities next and also posting other fine motor activities to do that do not use water.

Have Fun!!