

# Around the World Classroom Activities

## Infants (Birth–12 months)

### 1) Hello Song (Daily Routine)

**Materials:** none (optional scarf)

**Set up:** Hold baby or sit baby supported.

**Steps:**

1. Sing a simple tune: “Hello, hello, hello to you...”
2. Add 2–3 greetings (repeat slowly): “Hello / Hola / Bonjour / Salaam.”
3. Wave gently and pause so baby can watch your face.

**What to say:** “Hello, friend! We can say hello in many ways.”

**Skills:** bonding, listening, early language

### 2) World Picture Look & Point

**Materials:** 6–10 sturdy photo cards (babies/children, homes, foods, animals, landmarks)

**Steps:**

1. Show one card at a time about 8–12 inches from the baby.
2. Point and label with 1–2 words: “Baby. Bread. Boat.”
3. Let the baby touch the card (if safe).
4. Repeat favorites (babies learn through repetition).

**What to say:** “Look! A baby. Look! A boat.”

**Skills:** visual tracking, attention, vocabulary

### 3) Texture “Travel Blanket”



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**Materials:** fabric squares (cotton, fleece, denim, burlap, satin)

**Steps:**

1. Offer one fabric square.
2. Let the baby explore with hands.
3. Label texture: "Soft... smooth... bumpy."

**What to say:** "Different feels—safe hands."

**Skills:** sensory exploration, descriptive language

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## Toddlers (1–3 years)

### 1) Around the World Music & Movement

**Materials:** 4–5 short music clips (30–60 seconds each), open space

**Steps:**

1. Teach: "Music on = move. Music off = freeze."
2. Model one move per song (clap, stomp, sway, tiptoe).
3. Stop music often and praise: "Great freezing!"
4. Repeat with a new song and new move.

**What to say:** "Different music, same dancing friends!"

**Skills:** listening, self-control, gross motor

### 2) Suitcase Sorting (Sun/Rain/Snow)

**Materials:** bag/suitcase, picture cards of items (boots, coat, umbrella, sunglasses, hat), 3 weather pictures

**Steps:**

1. Show a weather card: "We're going somewhere snowy!"



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2. Pull one item: "What should we pack?"
3. Toddlers place it under the correct weather.
4. Do simple reasons: "Boots keep feet warm."  
**What to say:** "Pack it! Good choice!"  
**Skills:** matching, vocabulary, reasoning

### 3) International Café Pretend Play

**Materials:** play food, baskets/plates, picture menu (2–4 items)

**Steps:**

1. Model ordering: "I would like \_\_\_\_."
2. Toddlers choose from 2 options: "Rice or fruit?"
3. Practice "please/thank you."  
**What to say:** "You chose noodles! Thank you!"  
**Skills:** dramatic play, communication, social skills

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## Preschool (3–5 years)

### 1) Passport Stamps

**Materials:** small booklet pages (stapled), dot markers/stickers, stamp pads (optional)

**Steps:**

1. Give each child a "passport" booklet.
2. Each day/center = one "stamp" (sticker or dot marker).
3. Add a simple drawing: "Draw what you saw today (food/music/animal)."  
**What to say:** "Your passport shows your learning journey."  
**Skills:** fine motor, routine, recall



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## 2) World Homes Build

**Materials:** blocks, cardboard, small figures, photos of different homes (apartment, stilt house, houseboat, hut, city home)

**Steps:**

1. Show 2–3 home photos. Ask: “What do you notice?”
2. Invite children to build a home using blocks.
3. Add pretend play: “Who lives here? What do they need?”

**What to say:** “Homes can look different. Homes help people feel safe.”

**Skills:** STEM, creativity, language

## 3) Snack “Taste & Talk”

**Materials:** 2–3 simple snacks from different places (check allergies): pita + hummus, rice cakes, mango, tortillas, yogurt

**Steps:**

1. Show each food before serving: “This is pita.”
2. Use describing words: “crunchy, soft, sweet, salty.”
3. Kids vote with thumbs: “Like it / not yet.”

**What to say:** “New foods are for tasting—one bite is brave.”

**Skills:** vocabulary, trying new things, manners

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# School-Age (5–8 years)

## 1) Postcard from a Place

**Materials:** postcard template, pencils/markers, map (optional)

**Steps:**



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1. Kids choose a “place” (mountains, city, rainforest, beach) or one of your 4 stops.
2. Draw what they might see (animals, foods, buildings, weather).
3. Write 4–6 sentences using prompts:
  - “Today I saw \_\_\_\_.”
  - “The weather is \_\_\_\_.”
  - “I tried \_\_\_\_.”
  - “My favorite part was \_\_\_\_.”
4. Share with a partner.  
**Skills:** writing, describing, presentation

## 2) Landmark Engineering Challenge

**Materials:** craft sticks, paper, tape, cups, string

**Steps:**

1. Show 2–3 landmark photos (Eiffel Tower, Great Wall, pyramids, Sydney Opera House).
2. Challenge: “Build the tallest/strongest structure that stands for 10 seconds.”
3. Test, improve, and retry.  
**Skills:** problem-solving, engineering cycle, teamwork

## 3) World Trivia Scavenger Hunt (Indoor)

**Materials:** clue cards with pictures, map/globe image, hidden “passport stamps”

**Steps:**

1. Hide 6–10 clues around the room.
2. Each clue leads to the next location.



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3. Each found clue earns a stamp/sticker on their passport.

**Skills:** reading, teamwork, movement, persistence

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## Whole-Program Extras (Any Age)

### Hello Wall (All Week)

Post greetings and wave each morning:

Hello • Hola • Bonjour • Nǐ hǎo • Salaam • Namaste • Ciao

*(Use the languages that fit your community when possible.)*

### Travel Table (All Week)

Add: map, photo cards, postcards, pretend suitcase, books, and a “question of the day”:

- “What did you notice?”
- “What would you pack?”
- “What music did you like?”



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