May Dose of Discovery: Week 2
Extension Activity: Let’s Go Fly a Kite!

Learning Points:

- Children will have the opportunity to discover and apply the interesting aerodynamics that are involved in designing and flying a kite outside.
- Children will be able to experience, in a very sensory-rich way, how air flows around a kite and the lift that is created by that flow.

Materials:

- 2 wooden skewers or 2 relatively straight sticks
- Poster tack and string
- Colorful, plastic bag or colorful paper
- Scissors, pencil, and tape
- Ball of string
- Strips of newspaper or tissue paper

Activity:

Step 1: Make two wooden skewers into a cross and attach them with poster tack. Tie some string around the middle to secure it. Place the frame on a plastic bag or the paper. Draw a diamond shape around the frame and cut it out. Tape the shape to the frame.

Step 2: Turn your kite over. Use a sharp pencil to make a hole in the plastic or the paper where the sticks cross. Thread the end of a ball of string through the hole and tie it to the frame. Take your kite outside and let it fly!

Step 3: Now try taping together strips of newspaper or tissue paper to make a long paper tail. Then tape the tail to the bottom of your kite.

*Does it change the way the kite flies?*

Adding a tail makes the kite fly more smoothly. It gives it extra weight and helps balance the kite so it doesn’t twist and turn as much in the wind.

Adapted from activities from 365 Science Activities by Usborne Activities pg. 20-21: Flying Kites!