Jumping and Hopping

Jump down from a low bench/block or bottom stair step. Provide hand assistance if necessary.
Jump so the feet clear the floor, with hand assistance if needed. Focus on starting and finishing with bent knees. Imagine jumping to pop bubbles on the floor.
Jump forwards (pretend to be rabbits or frogs). Progress to jumping forwards without pausing and with feet together.
Jump over cracks in a sidewalk, gym lines, or skipping ropes laid down as obstacles. Progress to jumping with two feet together.
Place floor markers in a line two ft. apart. Jump from one marker to the other.
Play hopscotch to practice jumping.
Jump over small objects (broom handle, skipping rope). Progress by increasing the height of object.
Jump up with feet together. Progress to jumping up with feet together several times without pausing.
Jump backwards/sideways with feet together.
Hop on one foot, with leg slightly bent. Provide assistance as needed.
Hop on one foot several times in one spot.
Hop on one foot forwards, backwards, and sideways. Jump over lines, skipping ropes, or play hopscotch to progress difficulty.

Helpful verbal cues for jumping include:

- "Bend knees and swing arms back!"
- "Push up through your legs!"
- "Land on two feet with arms out like you're riding a motorcycle!"

