

Senses

Sand and water table: Add a variety of materials including beads and buttons, then supply the children with measuring cups, bowls, and spoons.

Related books

I Can Tell by Touching by Carolyn Otto

Walter the Baker by Eric Carle

Sandy L. Scott, Vancouver, WA

Squiggle, Wiggle, and Draw

3+

Materials

6" (15 cm) plastic, disposable plates or small Styrofoam trays, one per child

Aluminum foil

Fingerpaint or tempera paint

Plastic wrap

Tape

What to do

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1. Cover each plate with aluminum foil. ProFilePlanner.com

2. Spoon about 2 tablespoons (30 mL) of paint onto the middle of the plate.

3. Cover the plate with plastic wrap following the contour of the plate. Do not wrap tightly.

4. Secure the plastic wrap on the back of the plate with tape.

5. Invite the children to mix the paint and create designs or pictures using their fingers.

More to do

Language: Reinforce vocabulary relating to the senses—cold, hot, slippery, rough, coarse, smooth, loud, sweet, sour.

More art: Blend primary colors to create secondary colors. Practice drawing letters or numbers.

Outdoors: Sit outside on a fair day with your eyes closed and listen carefully for sounds.

Science: Put other materials in tightly secured sandwich bags and invite the children to squeeze the bags and compare their texture.

Related books

Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni

Mouse Paint by Ellen Stoll Walsh

My Crayons Talk by Patricia Hubbard

Patricia L. Phillips, Evansville, IN

senses

Scented Playdough

3+

Materials

2 cups (500 mL) of flour
1 cup (250 mL) of salt
2 packages of unsweetened drink mix
Bowl
2 cups (500 mL) of boiling water
3 tablespoons (45 mL) of oil

What to do

1. Have the children mix the dry ingredients in a bowl.
2. Ask the children to step aside, then add the water and oil. Knead the mixture into a brightly colored, sweet-smelling dough, adding more flour, if necessary.
3. Invite the children to play with the dough.

More to do

Circle time: Brainstorm about the senses you use during certain activities.

More art: Add water to drink mix and use the mixture as watercolor paint.

Science: Experiment with slime and flubber.

Snack: Make a fruit kabob and compare the texture and taste of the fruits and their skins.

Related books

Little Mouse, Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear by Audrey Wood

My Five Senses by Alik

Pat the Bunny by Dorothy Kunhardt

Audrey F. Kanoff, Allentown, PA

Tactile Letters

3+

Materials

Card stock cut into 4" x 5" (10 cm x 13 cm) pieces, one per child
Pencils
Craft or white glue