

Approaches to Learning Activity for Birth to 6 Months

See-Through Shake Toys

This activity will spark infants' curiosity as they notice the objects move and make noise inside the bottle. It also will give them experience in cause and effect (a cognitive skill).

Materials:

- Small plastic soft-drink bottles with screw tops
- Hot-glue gun or super glue
- Interesting objects to put inside (colored sand, beads, small pom poms, pieces of colored yarn)

What to do:

- 1. Make the shake toys by soaking off the labels in soapy water. Put one or more interesting materials inside.
- 2. Glue the top on bottle securely.
- 3. Place one or more of these near the child and watch what he does.
- 4. Observe. Does he show interest and excitement with the materials: Does he shake or bang the bottle to make the materials inside the bottle move? Does he shake the bottles to repeat the effect?

Variations:

- A. Fill the bottles with water and put some of the interesting materials inside.
- B. Fill the bottles half-full with colored water and add dish detergent. Let the child shake the bottle to make bubbles.

Safety Alert! Check frequently to make sure the tops are glued on securely.

