



Exploration Bins

In a basket, box, or bag, collect 5-6 items according to a theme/topic for children to freely explore. Allow children to play freely with the items, to ask questions, and to take their time interacting with the materials however they choose.

Examples:

- ◆ Color: collect red items, such as a toy tomato, toy firetruck, red crayon, toy crab, and red ball
- ◆ Music: maracas, egg shakers, chimes, jingle bell strips, and drumsticks
- ◆ Insects: toy centipede, spider, ladybug, bumblebee, and dragonfly

More Support: If you notice children becoming frustrated while trying to explore how items work, provide gentle guidance or model and narrate how to use the item. Give children space to explore.

Promote Autonomy

“You are working hard to figure out how to use the binoculars. You’re turning them around and around.”