

# The rich rewards of treasure baskets

Treasure baskets give children the opportunity to play and get hands on with a wide range of objects. They also encourage creativity, problem solving and trial and error exploration. Treasure baskets can be a plastic-toy-free-zone too!

## Contents to captivate

The more diverse the collection in a basket, the richer the learning opportunities will be. You can also change the combination of objects to help children make new discoveries and connections. And remember, if items get worn or tatty, replace them!



## Texture

Is this soft or hard?  
Rough or smooth?  
Fluffy or bristly?



## Movement

Some things twist, some bend, some roll, some fold and crinkle.



## Sound

This rattles. This rings.  
What happens when you tap or shake?

## Smell

Does this scent remind you of a garden? Or fruit? Or dinner time?



## Natural

This came from the sea.  
This was on a beach.  
This grew on a plant.



## Light and Colour

Look through, look at reflections.  
See how things sparkle, flash and shine.



## Containers

Does this open?  
How does this undo?  
What will fit in here?



## Size and Shape

Which is bigger? Which is smaller.  
Will these fit together?



Toddler



Baby



Black & White



Sensory



Natural



Maths



Pairs



Threes

## Supervision and safety

Items in treasure baskets are not toys so children should always be supervised while playing with them. If an item doesn't seem right for a younger child, remove it and introduce it when they are older.

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