

# CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Parent and Child Care Provider Resource

## Infant Fall Activity

### Growing and Learning through Play

The following activity will support children's learning. Talk with children and ask questions as you play with them. As children listen to you, they build language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to children's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at [www.chs-ca.org](http://www.chs-ca.org) to discover more learning resources.



## Activity: Fall Sensory Bottles

### What you need:

- Clean, empty, and dry plastic bottles with lids. The bottles should be clear and have all labels removed
- Water (enough to fill each bottle)
- Clear liquid soap (optional)
- Fall items: acorns, bark, colored leaves, sequins (orange, yellow, red, leaf shaped)
- Wooden spoon
- Duct tape or electrical tape
- Hot glue gun (optional and for adult use only)

### What to do:

- Prepare sensory bottles in advance
- Start by taking infants for a nature walk to gather fall items such as colored leaves, acorns, tree bark, or sticks
- Gather any other fall items you may have such as sequins that are orange, red, yellow, or leaf-shaped. You can also use small plastic items used for cake decorating or crafting such as tiny pumpkins
- Prepare your plastic bottles by removing all labels and washing them thoroughly with soap and water. Set the bottle out to air dry. (You can use water bottles of all sizes, or clear plastic jars, such as those used for specialty foods or spreads. **Allergy Alert: Do not use jars that contained nuts or nut butters**)
- Fill each bottle about 2/3 full with water, and add your fall sensory items. You can use the handle of the wooden spoon to gently push items inside
- Now you can either fill the bottle to the top with water, or you can add clear liquid soap. Adding the clear liquid soap helps slow down the movement of objects inside
- Place a little glue around the inside of the bottle lid and seal the bottle. You can wrap the lid with duct tape or electrical tape to make sure it will not open
- Place the bottles on the floor within reach of the infants and show them how the items inside can move
- Describe the objects in the bottles as infants roll, shake, and explore them
- Leave the bottles out where infants can play with them when they choose. Infants learn through repetition, and they will enjoy exploring the bottles again

### What the activity does:

- Practices the development of motor skills
- Encourages visual tracking of objects
- Promotes knowledge of different colors and natural materials
- Develops cognitive understanding of cause and effect
- Introduces new vocabulary

