

Activity Ideas



Sight and Sound Drum

E0219

This stimulating Sight and Sound Drum features four individual tubes that each hold a different visually engaging material – bells, beads, marbles and diffraction. Plus, a set of clacking wooden spheres. The entire drum spins with the slightest effort and the individual tubes also spin. Some of the individual tubes make interesting noises as they spin. Ideal for developing hand eye coordination, fine and gross motor skills, as well as exploring early “cause and effect”.

Research shows that sensory play in the early years builds nerve connections in the brain’s pathways. This beautifully crafted resource has been thoughtfully developed to maximise this special time in a child’s development.

Tummy Time Play

We all know how important tummy time is for babies, helping to strengthen their back, neck and shoulders. It gives even the youngest baby a different view of the world!

The Sight and Sound Drum provides a perfect focal point. If you slowly turn it for very young babies and allow older ones to explore it for themselves. Experiencing the joy making something happen as they build their hand-eye coordination and perceptual motor skills.

Rotational Schema

Schematic play happens when babies and toddlers repeat actions over and over and so explore the world around them through play. Rotational Schema is the exploration of things that turn, twirl, spin, roll and rotate. So, the Sight and Sound Drum will be hugely popular for children showing rotational schema.



As they can spin the whole drum seize the opportunity to talk about fast and slow. Let them see how fast it can go! Can they make it turn slowly? Take time to explore each tube. Watch them as they spin.



Language Development

What can you see? Think beyond the obvious and seize every chance to extend vocabulary. Either by using alternative words to describe the contents of each tube, or by adding attributes. For example, I can see bells. Or are they silver bells? Or small, silver bells? Or maybe small, sparkling, silver bells. Or even five small, sparkling, silver bells. What can you hear? For example, the bells make a tinkling sound. Or jingle bells.

How many bells can you see? Five bells.

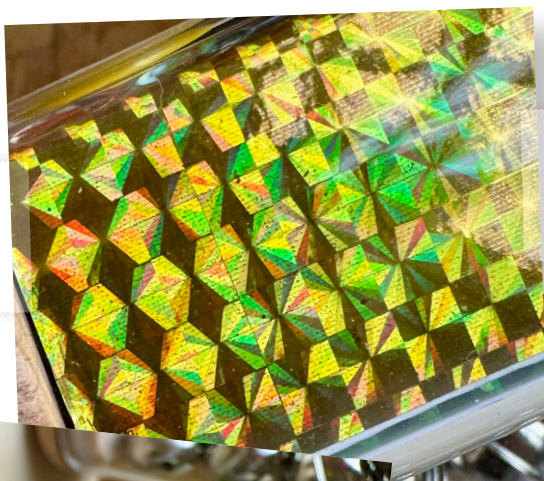
What sounds can you hear? Tinkle, jingle, swoosh, clack, thud, etc.

You may find it helpful pin up some 'vocabulary word prompts' around your setting – for you to use with the children to extend their vocabulary beyond the obvious.



Light Play

Shine a torch onto the Sight and Sound Drum as it spins. Take some time to spin the diffraction tubes. Children will love to see the way they glint and sparkle in the light.



If you have a UV torch, shine it on the bead tube and see how the different colored beads glow. What colours can you see? For preschoolers ask, how many beads do you think there are? Can you guess? How would you count them? Have some fun with big numbers! Do you think there are a trillion? What might that look like?

Mirror Play

Place a mirror or two around the Sight and Sound Drum and watch as it turns! Let children play and explore the wonder of reflection.

Preschooler play

Older children will enjoy exploring the Sight and Sound Drum in a different way. Methodically turning each drum. Looking closely at what is inside. Playing with fast spins and slow spins. You could count as the drum spins. Who can make the longest spin?

Self-access and Choice

Toddlers will enjoy choosing from more than one Learn Well toy. You could create an area where they are on display, ready for play. Which one is their favorite today?

Quiet Time and Emotional Regulation

Taking time out of a busy day to quietly sit and explore a toy like the Sight and Sound Drum is an excellent way to build self-regulation skills. You could create a quiet corner with cozy cushions, blankets and soft lighting. The Sight and Sound Drum would be a good toy to have available for quiet play.



Perfect for quiet play time

Get talking – useful words:

rotate	colour	clack
spin	reflection	click
twirl	sound	fast
move	jingle	slow
swirl	tinkle	rock
sparkle	bell	swoosh