Explore the Senses with Sensory Bottles!

Sensory bottles allow children of all ages to explore new items in a safe and mess-free way. Watch as children make connections to the world around them and marvel at the new experiences. You can adapt the sensory bottles to a wide range of skills and concepts.

Check out how we used Sensory Tubes in this fun video:
kaplanco.com/ii/chicka-chicka-boom-boom

DIY Sensory Bottle Activity

Materials:

- Water bottle or other container that can be closed
- Hot glue or extra-strong glue
- Interest items (such as pipe cleaners, glitter, pompoms, alphabet letters, confetti)
- Water or oil
- Food coloring (optional)

Tip: Pick explorations that meet the unique needs of the children in your care. Are you looking for a safe way to investigate small bugs or insects, or are you interested in teaching magnetic properties? The sensory bottles can become any lesson you desire!

Process:

1. Place interest items in the water bottle.
2. Add water or oil, filling to the top.
3. Add food coloring if desired.
4. Add glue to the inside rim of the bottle cap and tightly screw on the lid to close.
5. Allow glue to dry. Test to make sure the lid is securely glued.
6. Introduce the sensory bottle to the children, or place on a shelf or basket for them to explore themselves.

Children will find items in the bottles, watch how the water flows, or even start a discussion with you about what they are seeing and experiencing.

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