

Into water play...



You will need to find or collect:

- Water containers.
- Plastic bottles, jugs and graded containers – various sizes, shapes and colours to encourage investigation and problem solving.
- Old pots and pans.
- Teapots, tea strainers and cups.
- Wooden, metal and plastic spoons of various sizes.
- Funnels, water wheels, and other water toys.
- Boats and rafts made from junk materials.
- Small world sea creatures and pond creatures.
- Ice cube trays.
- Funnels, pipes, guttering, hoses which encourage children to investigate and explore can be bought at relatively low cost.
- Watering cans, water guns, plant sprays.
- Natural and synthetic sponges and cloths, and other absorbent materials.
- Assorted brushes.
- Soap suds, washing up liquid.
- Milk crates – or something similar which allows children to create 'waterfalls' using guttering.
- Plastic ties/twine.
- Paddling pool or shallow trays which allow children to paddle and splash.
- Buckets and bowls – various sizes that allow children to transport water.
- Washing line, washing board, clothes and pegs.
- Plastic sheeting.
- Hose pipe and sprinkler.

YOUNG CHILDREN SHOULD NEVER BE LEFT ALONE WHEN ENGAGING IN WATER PLAY!

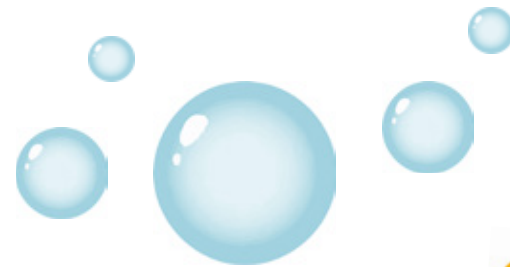
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What to do...

Using the bath, the sink, a washing up bowl, a bucket, or any other large containers explore the concepts of:

- Full/empty/half full
- Measuring and comparing
- Water displacement
- Floating and sinking
- Transporting using boats and rafts



Add ice, bubbles, food colouring, pebbles, shells, glass beads and glitter to create small world scenarios for sea creatures, pond creatures, pirates etc. Design and make boats to sail.

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Into water play...



Make the most of all weather types. Get outside and...

- Jump in puddles. Draw around them and watch them get smaller.
- Dam or divert a channel of rainwater using found, natural materials.
- Create a 'water-run' by linking tubing, pipes and guttering. Look out for leaks!
- Catch the rainfall using buckets, various size containers, water butts etc.
- Help to wash the windows, your bike or your parent's car.
- Bath your dolls, wash their clothes and hang them out to dry.
- Sing and dance in the rain with your umbrella.
- Make a water slide using the hose pie, plastic sheeting and washing up liquid.
- Paint a picture on a fence/wall, using only water and different sized brushes. Watch it dry and fade...
- Paint with mud and water. Have fun hosing away the pictures afterwards if you painted on a wall.
- Build a shelter to keep you dry.
- Make footprints wearing different types of shoes: wellington boots, flip-flops, shoes, sandals, trainers etc. Play detectives and try to identify who the footprints belong to.
- Make mud pies. Add natural materials to them and let them set.
- Mix potions using water and found natural materials.

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Taking it further...



Design and build a water park for the toys.

- Draw a design of what your water park will look like.
- Decide upon the best location for a water park.
- Think about, and decide on, the materials and equipment you will need.
- Start building your water park.
- Add swimming pools and paddling pools of different sizes and depths. Remember that not all of the toys can swim! Find ways to keep them safe and remind them of all the safety rules.
- Build slides and other water features.
- Think about where the toys will sit when they are not swimming.
- Add a cafe and/or an ice-cream shop made from cardboard boxes.
- Sell tickets to the toys and show them how to use the water park safely. Use notices and warnings too.
- Take photographs of the toys enjoying the water park share them with your friends. Explain to each other what you did.

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