



It's raining...

What do you need?

- Umbrella
- Chair
- Watering can or jug
- Water or rice
- Shower curtain/ table cloth



How do you do it?

Place shower curtain/ table cloth on the floor. Place a chair on the shower curtain and sit the child on the chair with the umbrella open. Pour water/rice from your watering can/jug onto the umbrella. Sing a song about the activity, e.g. "it's raining on [child's name], it's raining on [child's name], eieieo, it's raining on [child's name]". Encourage your child to put their hand outside of the umbrella and feel the water.

Talk as you play with your child:

Use words like: "wow" "ready, steady... go" "oh no, it's raining!" "pouring water"

Talk about what the water looks and feels like: "big splash" "wet"

For a change:

- Make it into a story e.g. pretend you are going on a 'bear hunt' and get caught in the rain!



Lemonade Fountain

What do you need?

- Chilled bottle of lemonade
- Salt
- Choice of glitter
- Choice of food colouring
- Tray



How do you do it?

Place the tray on the floor. Open the bottle slowly to create anticipation. Add the food colouring and then the glitter. Finally add the salt and 'whoossh' – watch it explode!

Talk as you play with your child:

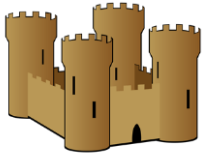
Use words like: "open" "ready, steady... go" "pour" "stop" "whoosh" colours (e.g. "red", "blue")

Talk about what the lemonade fountain looks and feels like: "it's all wet and sticky" "it's exploding!"

You can use more than one lemonade bottle: "one", "two", "three"!

For a change:

- Offer choices to your child as to the colour of the glitter and food colouring



Flour Castles

What do you need?

- 3 or more plastic cups
- A tub of flour
- A large tray or wipe clean table cloth



How do you do it?

Place the table cloth or tray on the floor. Fill the cups with flour and turn upside down to create 'flour castles' (like sandcastles). Take turns smashing the castles and creating mess and fun!

Talk as you play with your child:

Use words like: *"building castles"* *"push"* *"ready, steady... smash"* *"castle, wow!"*

Talk about what the flour looks and feels like:
"it's like snow" *"the flour is soft!"*

For a change:

- Hide small toys in the castles to see what your child can find!
- Sprinkle glitter over for extra sparkle!
- Use a sieve to sprinkle the flour on the tray/ paper
- Draw and make marks together in the flour!



Foam Cakes

What do you need?

- Cupcake cases, all different and exciting colours
- Shaving foam
- Glitter
- A large tray or wipe clean table cloth



How do you do it?

Place the table cloth or tray on the floor. Then put down each cupcake case and add the foam to create 'foam cakes.' Take turns making each cake, creating lots of mess and fun! At the end, turn over the cakes and make them 'splat'!

Talk as you play with your child:

Use words like: *"shake"* (foam can) *"squeeze"* *"foam on"* *"cake"* *"ready steady... splat"* *"glitter wow!"*

Talk about what the foam looks and feels like:
"it's like snow" *"the foam is cold"*

You can count the cakes and cake cases: *"one"*, *"two"* and *"three"*!

For a change:

- Sprinkle glitter over the cakes for extra sparkle!
- Get messy and make marks together in the foam!