

Treasure Basket: Surprise – What’s in the Box?

Learning Value:

Simple items provide infants with a wealth of possibilities. With treasure baskets children learn about the properties of items through hands-on exploration. Your child will learn how objects move, feel, how heavy or light they are, and begin to compare items by touch – all important concepts for scientific discovery.

Materials Needed:

- ▶ Basket or box with easy-to-move lid
- ▶ Small brushes
- ▶ Pieces of fabric
- ▶ Smooth balls

Participants:

This activity is intended for adult/child interaction.

Directions:

- ▶ **Step One:** Place a few items in the basket from list and place in a spot where your infant can easily access. This may be on the floor if your infant is younger or a low sturdy coffee table for your older infant.
- ▶ **Step Two:** Encourage your child to explore the basket or box – lifting and lowering the lid, pulling items out, putting items in, or moving items in combination with each other for older infants, such as covering ball with fabric.
- ▶ **Step Three:** Allow your child to explore freely; this is how they direct their learning. As your child explores, observe what they do and engage in conversation by periodically describing what you see them doing. When they respond to you, respond back.

Bright Horizons.

World at Home