

Musical Water

Primary Objectives

11d. Shows curiosity and motivation

Why It's Important

Playing with sounds created by water in a glass gives children the opportunity to measure and pour liquid as well as to make music. This activity will help your child develop math and music skills while creating a musical instrument.

Materials

Measuring cups; water; spoons; five tall drinking glasses, glass jars, or other easy-to-fill glass containers of similar size and shape

What You Do

1. Invite your child to help you pour water into the five containers to different levels. You can measure the amounts of water before pouring, or mark the containers with a line to indicate the desired water level.
2. Explain to your child that he will use the containers to make music. Give him a spoon or pencil to tap on the containers. Encourage him to talk about the sound made by each container. *This one is almost full of water. What do you notice about the sound it makes when you tap it?*
3. Ask questions that prompt him to compare the sounds. *How do these two containers sound different? What is different about the water in them?*
4. Invite your child to arrange the filled containers from more to less amounts of water. Talk about how the sounds go from low to high as he taps each one. *What do you hear when you tap on all of the glasses from most full to the least full? Why do you think the sounds go from low to high?*
5. Continue the activity for as long as your child is interested, encouraging him to rearrange the containers and play different tunes.