

# Individual Learning Kit

## Infant

### What's Included

Your Infant Individual Learning Kit includes the following materials to help children build skills.

- 4 Explore & Play Activity Rattles
- 6 Soft & Washable Sensory Balls
- 6 Touch & Feel Discovery Books
- 16-Piece Stack & Nest Sensory Toys

### Activities

To help you get started, we've included a few activity ideas for using the materials with children.

#### • Activity 1: Let's Roll!

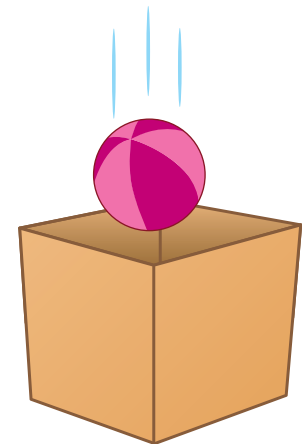
Explore the six sensory balls with your child. Shake and squeeze each ball and discover any sounds they make. Talk with your child about whether the sound is soft, loud, jingly, and so on. Discuss the size of the balls and feel their texture. Choose one ball and sit a few inches away from your child. Roll the ball back and forth to each other. Try again with different-size balls.

#### • Activity 2: Go Get It!

To encourage crawling, choose a sensory ball that jingles. Shake it to get your child's attention. Then place the ball near your child and encourage him or her to crawl toward it. Once your child reaches the ball, allow him or her to explore the touch and feel of it. Roll it forward again, encouraging your child to crawl toward it. Clap for positive reinforcement as your child reaches the ball.

#### • Activity 3: Ball Drop

Find a large bowl or box. With your child sitting up next to you, pick up a ball and drop it into the bowl/box. Clap and cheer when it goes inside. Encourage your child to pick up the balls and drop them into the bowl/box, cheering when they go inside. Once the bowl/box is full, turn it over to dump the balls out. To build understanding of object permanence, cut a hole in the bottom of a box. Encourage your child to drop a ball through the hole. Ask, *Where did it go?* Then lift the box to reveal the ball inside.



#### • Activity 4: Let's Go Sightseeing!

With your child lying on his or her back, introduce the activity rattles. Hold a rattle above your child's face, then shake the rattle as you slowly move it back and forth, up and down, and all around. As you do this, encourage your child to visually track or follow the rattle and sounds. Give your child the rattles to hold, shake, and teethe on as he or she explores the different sights, sounds, and textures.



• **Activity 5: Shake It!**

Choose one of the rattles and shake it by your child's ear. When your child looks at the rattle, shake it by the other ear. Next, shake the rattle above your child's head and then behind his or her back. Where did the rattle go?

• **Activity 6: Find It!**

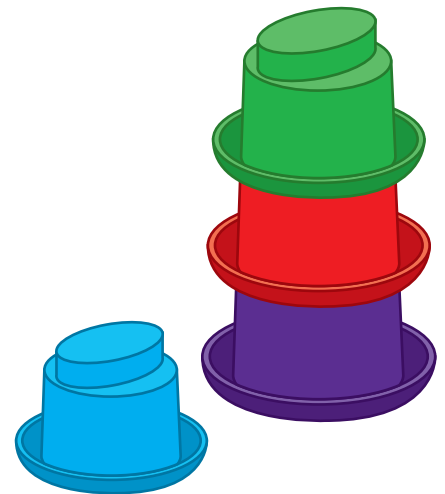
Shake one of the activity rattles where your child can see it, continuing to shake it as you place it behind your back. Can your child crawl toward the sound and find the rattle? If your child is mobile, try shaking the rattle as you move and see if your child follows. TIP: Be sure to let your child have the rattle before too long so that he or she doesn't lose interest.

• **Activity 7: How Does It Feel?**

While on your tummies, introduce the board books. Slowly explore one book at a time—turning the pages, reading aloud, and feeling the different textures together. Name each animal and emphasize words like "rough," "soft," and "smooth" to keep your child's attention as you read.

• **Activity 8: Stack & Nest Fun**

- Choose one set of plastic stackers and introduce them to the child. Compare the different sizes. Place the smallest and largest pieces next to each other to teach "big versus small." Add another piece into the mix to work on "big, bigger, and biggest."
- Stack three stackers together to introduce the concept of sequencing and "what comes next." Put the smallest piece on top of the biggest one first since these two are the most visually different. In time, incorporate the other stackers.
- Use the solid-color stackers to work on color recognition. As you stack or nest the pieces, reinforce the color name. Later, ask your child to give you the red stacker, the blue stacker, and so on. You can also place the stackers in a box or bag, pull one out, and ask your child what color it is.



• **Activity 9: Scoop & Pour**

Use the plastic stackers to scoop and pour for water play fun.

• **Activity 10: Disappearing Cereal**

Use the plastic stackers to create your own version of the old-fashioned shell game! Hide a cereal oat under one of the stackers and see if your child can find it, reinforcing object permanence. For added fun, use two different stackers. Place the cereal oat under one and then move it around to see if your child can remember which stacker is hiding the cereal.

