Learning Experiences for the Light to Touch Sensory Stacking Stones (EL47846)



Suitable from birth, Light to Touch Sensory Stacking Stones can be enjoyed in an early years setting, sensory room or inclusion base. A single gentle tap changes the colour, allowing babies or children, regardless of their strength or dexterity to make a change.

Discovery and Exploration

Place a stone(s) within easy reach while a baby is comfortably supported during floor play. Give it a gentle tap, then pause to allow time for them to notice the change. They might watch and observe, reach towards it or touch it themselves. Respond to their interest with a smile, gesture and a few simple words such as, 'You touched it. It's blue!'

Exploring Cause and Effect

Position a stone where a child can comfortably reach and tap it. Allow time for them to explore how their touch changes the colour. Once they have discovered the connection, pause and let them decide whether to do it again. Even a small gentle tap can produce a clear, visible response.

Choosing a Colour

In a sensory space or part of play, invite a child to explore the colours and stop on one they like. Notice their gestures, sounds, words or changes in expression as you explore together. Some children will enjoy discussing why it is their favourite colour, what it reminds them of, how it makes them feel or even go to find objects around the room to match their chosen colour. Leave their chosen colour glowing for as long as they remain interested.

A Quiet Moment

Offer the stones in a familiar quiet space where children can sit comfortably. They might choose one steady colour or prefer to watch the colours slowly scroll. Give them time to look, touch or simply sit with the stone in their hands. Follow their response, as some children may enjoy the light while those who prefer less visual stimulation may turn the light off.





Lights and Mirrors

Place the stones beside or on top of a securely positioned, child safe mirror. Alternatively, you may want to place the stones on a mirrored table/furniture. Watch as children observe the reflection. As they tap to change the colour, notice together what happens in the mirror. Leave time for them to repeat the action and explore the effect for themselves at their own pace.

Time to Lead

Invite a child to choose a colour on their stone while the adult or a friend watches. Can they work together to find the same colour. They might change theirs to give the signal for the other person to find the new colour. Keep it playful, giving the child time to lead and decide what happens next.

Stacking and Balancing

Some may children may want to explore how the different sized stones can be stacked and how they balance on top of one another. They might start with the largest stone at the bottom or try a different arrangement to see what happens. Leave time for adjusting, rebuilding and trying again when a stack tumbles. Talk alongside their discoveries, 'That one is wobbling. What could you do differently?', 'Can you show me what happens if the smallest one is at the bottom?'

Following their Play – Schematic Play

Notice how children choose to play with the stones and offer space for them to repeat the actions that interest them. They may carry them in a basket or container from one place to another, line them up, spin or stack them.

Sorting and Making Patterns

Offer the stones and see how the children choose to organise them. They might group them by size, tap them to create matching colours or arrange them from smallest to largest. They might practise making a repeated pattern, such as big, small, big, small. Invite children to explain their creations and to continue the patterns or invent their own. Explore colour patterns too, tapping the stones to make a colour sequence such as red, blue, yellow, red, blue, yellow.

Imaginative Play

Use the stones alongside fabrics, blocks and small world figures. The stones may become glowing treasures in a cave, stepping stones across a magical river, or magical stones that have different powers according to the colour selected. Follow the children's ideas, praise creativity and watch the stories unfold.