

Experience- Minestrone Music Bottles

ITALY

Materials Needed- Empty and clean plastic bottles- enough for each child to have one, uncooked pasta and uncooked beans. Place beans and pasta inside the plastic bottles. Secure lid tightly. Leave one bottle empty.

Remind children that minestrone is a type of soup that is eaten a lot in a faraway country called Italy. People where we live might eat minestrone too. Explain that beans and pasta are some things that go into making minestrone. Show children one of the bottles and point out the beans and the pasta. Shake the bottle. Ask children if they can hear the sound that it makes when you shake it. Then, shake the empty bottle. Ask them if they can hear anything when you shake it. Shake the minestrone bottle again. Ask children why they think the bottle with beans and pasta makes a sound when you shake it. It makes a sound because the beans and pasta are moving around inside the bottle. If they do not have the ability to answer, ask the question, pause and then provide a response.

Tell children that everyone will get a bottle to shake. Tell them that when you sing or say “shake” they will shake their bottle to make music, but when you say “stop” they will stop shaking the bottle and making music.

You can sing this song to the tune of The Farmer in the Dell

*We shake the bottles now, we shake the bottles now
Shake, shake, shake, shake, we shake the bottles now.*

*The bottles make a sound, the bottles makes a sound
Shake, shake, shake, shake, the bottles made a sound.*

*We shake the bottles high, we shake the bottles high
Shake, shake, shake, shake, we shake the bottles high. (*You can add low, fast, slow.)*

Individualization/Age Accommodation

Young infants- Gently shake the bottle in front of them and watch to see if they turn toward the sound. Encourage them to reach for and touch the bottle. As they touch it, shake it a little so that it makes a sound.

You should say something like, “Did you hear that? When you touch/grab/shake the bottle it makes a sound. You can make things happen.” Sing the song as you shake the bottle in front of them.

Older infants- Place the bottles where they can reach, roll, and shake them. As they play, you should say things like, “When you pushed the bottle it rolled and made a sound.” or “When you touched the bottle it fell over and made a sound. I can make things happen.” Shake your bottle and sing as they play with their bottle.

Younger toddlers- Talk about the bottle being empty. That means there is nothing inside of it. Allow them to look through the bottle and to shake the empty bottle. Remind them to stop shaking when you say “stop.” Sing the song and encourage them to move their bottle the same way.

Older toddlers- Same as above. Ask them to shake the bottle over their head, shake with two hands, etc.

Twos- If possible, provide children with a funnel and allow them to pour the pasta and beans inside their bottles. Let them know that once you put something inside the bottles that they are no longer empty. You can ask them if they want beans/pasta or both in their bottles. Encourage them to sing and shake along with you.

Domains- Concepts/Skills

Physical- shaking bottles

Language- minestrone, pasta, beans, shake, empty, high, low, fast, slow; understanding language; rhythm, rhyme and repetition (song)

Cognitive- (science) cause and effect; (math) measuring terms, empty, fast/slow, spatial relationships- beans and pasta inside, high/low; (culture/social studies) minestrone in Italy

Social/Emotional- confidence in abilities, self-regulation/impulse control

Approaches to Learning- eagerness, curiosity, information seeking, understanding the world around them

PTLA Alignment

4 month: 4m-PD.5; 4m-LC.5; 4m-CD.9; 4m-SED.8; 4m-AL.1

6 month: 6m-PD.5; 6m-LC.1; 6m-CD.11; 6m-SED.5; 6m-AL.8

9 month: 9m-PD.10; 9m-LC.5; 9m-CD.10; 9m-SED.4; 9m-AL.13

12 month: 12m-PD.7; 12m-LLC.2; 12m-CD.10; 12m-SED.4; 12m-AL.16

18 month: 18m-PD.8; 18m-LLC.2; 18m-CD.12; 18m-SED.3; 18m-AL.15

2 year: 2yo-PD.8; 2yo-LLC.5; 2yo-CD.9; 2yo-SED.3; 2yo-AL.12