Textures

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Physical, Cognitive

What You Need:

- A variety of textured objects such as cotton balls, scraps of fabric, sandpaper, or shells
- Paper bag
- Cardboard
- White glue (such as Elmer’s Glue®**) or glue stick

** Use of brand names is for informational purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the Learning to Grow Project.

What To Do:

1. Gather some textured materials such as cotton balls, scraps of fabric, sandpaper, or shells.
2. Place the materials in a paper bag. Have your child pull out two items from the bag at a time and talk about them: “What is it? How does each one feel? Which one is softer? Which one is harder?”
3. Have her take out five or six items and arrange them in a row from smoothest to roughest or softest to hardest.
4. If these items are not needed for other purposes, ask her to glue the materials onto the cardboard. Label each item with your child’s words describing its texture.
5. The next time you walk around the neighborhood with your child, locate textures that are similar to the materials on the cardboard. Use descriptive words such as “rough,” “smooth,” and “soft” to talk about what you find. Ask her
to compare and contrast the textures of different items.