



## CUP WATER PYRAMID

### Materials you need:

- Plastic cups of various sizes
- Jugs of different sizes for pouring water
- Buckets of water (you can add a little colour using edicol dye if you wish)
- Flat stable surface like a table, path or wooden board

### Setup for play:

- Set up all items on a table area outside or large space on a path.
- Show children how to stack cups to form a pyramid with cup opening facing upwards. After practising and knocking down the cup towers with water for a little while glue a few cups together on the rims so they stay in a pyramid formation (just a few rows will do but make sure to end with one cup on the top).
- Ask the children if they can fill the jugs with different water colours and pour to fill the top cup first.
- What happens when the cup fills to the top? Where does the water go? Can they make it fill all the cups down to the bottom? What happens if they pour using 2 jugs at once? What colours are they mixing?
- Place some cups and a shallow tray of water on the ground for the younger children to investigate, fill and pour.

## What are they learning with this activity?

As they fill the cup pyramid with water they are learning to:

- Use descriptive language to describe textures, materials and actions.
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Manipulate objects to explore motion, cause and effect
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Experiment with volume – full, nearly full, empty
- Express themselves creatively while investigating and experimenting
- Recognise the contributions they make to shared projects and experiences
- Identify, name and mix colours.
- Persist with a task even when frustrated.

## Extending the play:

- Try using some recycled pot plant tubs of different sizes to make a large scale pyramid or make a mini pyramid with smaller plastic shot glasses. Ask the children what else they could use.

