



## SUNSHINE SHAPES

### Materials you need:

- A few medium sized shapes cut from thin cardboard
- Sheets of alfoil or reflective wrapping paper
- String for hanging
- Hooks, dowel or clothes hangers

### Setup for play:

- Wrap the shapes you have cut out in alfoil.
- Make a small hole at the top of each shape and thread some string through.
- Attach shapes to dowel clothes hangers or hooks and hang by the string in front of a window or door that receives the sun each day. You can also hang outside from trees or similar. *Ensure you hang high enough, so the string is in no way a choking hazard.*
- Open the window to let a breeze in and move the shapes around. Set up a soft space for babies to sit underneath the shapes shining in the sunlight. A blanket out on the grass will add to the sensory aspect as baby tracks the shapes and watches the reflective light patterns caused by nature and the sun. Lift up to touch or reach out for the shapes.

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the babies watch the shapes turning and shining they are learning to:

- Develop new vocabulary and language skills
- Concentrate and watch moving things
- Strengthen visual motor integration and control
- Understand and engage with their natural world.

## Extending the play:

- Give the babies and toddlers some of the covered shapes to hold and play with.
- Add a basket of old DVD's and CD's to a basket and move them around in the sun so the light bounces off them and creates colourful prisms.

