



## EGGS/BALLS AND SPOONS

### Materials you need:

- A collection of different sized and textured egg shapes – plastic, foam, rubber, wooden, woollen, see through, opaque etc (you can usually find quite a few different types at the \$2 shop or places like Spotlight. If you don't have the time to source the eggs just use some different sized and textured balls instead.
- A basket of different sized spoons – ladles, soup, baby, measuring, wooden, salad, sieved. Whatever you have in the drawer or can find at the op shop on your next visit!

### Setup for play:

- Place the eggs out on the ground along with the basket of spoons for the children to access.
- Try not to lead the play but sit down with them and watch to see who begins to sort the eggs, who investigates the spoons, who picks up an egg with a spoon, who tries to move around with their egg balanced on a spoon.
- Make sure you allow plenty of time to explore, investigate and use the materials in different ways.
- You might support the children's learning by pointing out similarities and differences in the spoons and eggs every now and then as they play.

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the children engage with the different eggs and spoons they are learning to:

- Classify, sort by category and group items together by similarities, patterns and differences
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and concentration
- Manipulate small objects using pincer movements
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Manipulate equipment and real life tools with increasing competence
- Persist even when they find the task difficult – think of ways to solve a problem.
- Work independently on a project
- Listen to and follow directions

## Extending the play:

- Ask the children to choose their favourite egg and spoon and have a race while holding and balancing them as they run.
- Set up some ramps or tunnels to crawl through and see who can complete the obstacle course without dropping their egg.

