



## BIG & LITTLE BAGS

### Materials you need:

- Visit the op shop or market and collect 3 small purses/handbags and 3 larger bags.
- A collection of big and small loose parts that will fit in the bags. Ensure age appropriateness.

### Setup for play:

- Place small items from your loose parts collection into the small purses and handbags and the larger items into the larger handbags.
- Add to home corner as dramatic play props. Join in as the toddlers begin using the bags and talk about big and little as they play. Don't interrupt the play constantly with questions, just join in where you can and show interest in what they have found in their bags.
- What special things do you have in there? Do you have the big or little purse? Can I fit this ... in there too?

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the children fill and empty their bags they are learning to:

- Use their sense of touch and sight to make choices and create
- Use descriptive language and become independent communicators
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Engage in dramatic play and use it to imagine and explore ideas
- Recognise the difference between big and small.
- Manipulate small objects using pincer movements

## Extending the play:

- Place paint colour cards in the bags and see how the toddlers use them. They might become cards, money, letters or something entirely different! Listen to the conversations and join in where you can to extend on the language being used. Can they tell you the colours they pull out?
- Tie 2-3 small scarves or strips of material together with firm knots. Place inside small bags and give to baby to pull out and push back in.

