



SAND FOAM EGG CARTONS

Materials you need:

- 3-4 cups of sand from the sandpit
- 1 can shaving foam
- Egg cartons or paper plates
- Spoons and scoops of different sizes
- Large tub or tray for mixing the sand foam
- Flowers, leaves and twigs from the garden for decoration.

Setup for play:

- Add the sand to the large sensory tub then begin adding the shaving foam and encourage the children to get in there with their hands to mix it all together as you add more foam.
- Keep adding foam until you are happy with the texture – it makes a slimy, grainy texture that is so much fun to play with!
- When your foam is mixed let the children fill the egg cartons, containers or paper plates using the scoops and spoons.
- The children can add decorations to their creations if they choose by using the natural materials available (or perhaps they would like to go into the garden to choose their own instead!).

What are they learning with this activity?

As they make and create with the sand foam the children are learning to:

- Use descriptive language to describe textures, materials and actions.
- Use hand/eye coordination skills
- Express themselves creatively while investigating and experimenting
- Create with different mediums and textures
- Use their senses to explore the natural environment
- Explore simple scientific concepts through play and observation
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Make decisions about the materials they want to use and what works best.
- Challenge their sense of touch and sensory processing

Extending the play:

- Add small cars and trucks to the sand foam along with some pebbles to create a quarry or construction environment.
- Add some Jenga blocks and show the children how to use the foam to stick the blocks together like bricks to build a wall. Who can build the highest before it falls over?

