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**Matching Bucket**

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A simple resource which has a multitude of uses. Here are some ideas to inspire.

**You will need:**

* 1 bucket (preferably a bright coloured one, this is a metal one from IKEA)
* A selection of objects from around the environment
* A set of tickets naming the objects (laminated if preferred)
* Velcro to attach tickets to outside of bucket
* Shapes to decorate the bucket

**The resource is quick to make and can involve the child**

Step 1: Decorate the bucket

Step 2: Add your objects to the bucket

Step 3: Make your tickets and Velcro to the outside of the bucket

**Learning and development suggestions**

**Match textures**

Velcro textures to the outside and place matching texture in bucket for child to find and explore

**Match shapes**

Velcro textures to the outside and place matching shape in bucketfor child to find and explore

**Match objects**

Velcro textures to the outside and place matching objects in bucketfor child to find and explore

**Match sounds**

Velcro objects/textures with different sounds to the outside and place matching sound in bucketfor child to find and recognise

**Match initial letter sounds**

Child to match initial letter sound on each ticket to correct object in bucket

**Match words**

Child to match word on each ticket to correct object in bucket

**Collect objects**

Collect objects beginning with particular letter

Collect objects with two attributes, three attributes

Collect natural objects (e.g. made of metal, wood, collect different shaped leaves)

**Count objects**

Place number tickets on Velcro spots around bucket. Choose a number and count correct amount of objects, perhaps with a particular initial letter sound into the bucket, from a selection placed on a tray.

**Capacity**

Fill the bucket with water, find out how heavy the bucket is when it is full

Place each object in the water find out which float and which sink

Make a chart on a magnetic board of those that sink and those that float

Fill the bucket with sand and make a massive sandcastle!

Make a castle using the bucket to make sandcastle turrets

**Musical instrument**

Turn the bucket upside down and play it is a drum with hands, with wooden spoons! Make different sounds from loud banging to quiet tapping

**Make up a story or a poem about the bucket!**

Include the child in thinking about the story, what happened one Saturday when Dad wanted his car washing and the bucket had a hole in it, what happened next......