

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)
Parent and Provider Resource:
Activities for Distance Learning

Building Cognitive Skills

The following activity will support your child's learning while they are at home. Talk to your child and ask questions as you play. As your child listens to you, your child builds language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to your child's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at www.chs-ca.org and click on the News and Events tab for more learning resources.

INFANTS - Activity: Creating Purple

What you need:

- Sealable plastic freezer bags
 - Shaving cream
 - Red and blue food coloring
 - Strong tape
- Optional: You can choose to make other colors in different bags
- Red and yellow will make orange
 - Blue and yellow will make green
 - Small amounts of red food coloring mixed with white shaving cream can make pink

What to do:

- This activity needs to be closely supervised. Infants should not have direct contact with shaving cream
- Fill a sealable freezer bag 1/3 full with shaving cream
- Add a few drops of red and blue food coloring in the bag. Be careful not to squeeze it
- Seal the bag closed and tape the opening to make sure it stays closed. You can also place one bag inside the other as an extra precaution
- Sit on the floor and support the infant as he sits in front of you, or lay the infant on his belly
- Place the bag in front of the infant and allow him to touch, hold, and squeeze the bag
- As the red and blue mix together in the shaving cream, your infant will see the color purple appear
- Talk to your infant about the colors he can see and use descriptive language as you ask questions and describe his actions, such as: "You are touching the squishy purple bag. We mixed blue and red. What color did that make? It made purple"
- The bag can easily be wiped clean and used again for more sensory play

What the activity does:

- Engages infants' senses which supports learning
- Explores colors and how they can be mixed
- Introduces new vocabulary such as red, blue, white, purple, squeeze, squish, and mix
- Practices motor skills and encourages tummy time play



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