

## Treasure Baskets – Top Tips Fact Sheet!

### What is a treasure basket?

A Treasure Basket is a collection of interesting natural and reclaimed resources and household objects put together to give a baby a safe yet intriguing range of objects to explore.

Providing this experience for your baby encourages them to use all their senses, which helps them to make connections in their brains and supports all areas of their development.

### Getting started

When giving a treasure basket to your baby for the first time make sure that the basket is placed in a quiet area, free from distractions and stay close by to offer support.

Keep the contents of the basket varied and try to introduce new objects regularly to keep your babies interest.

Always remember to make sure that the objects are safe for your baby to play with.

### Why are treasure baskets so important?

Treasure baskets provide babies with a wide range of objects within easy reach that stimulate the senses and that are safe to handle and explore in different ways. By experiencing the smell, taste and feel of objects babies begin to find out how things work, what they like and how to make choices.

Young babies learn fast and need stimulation so that they don't get frustrated – treasure baskets can offer babies endless opportunities for exploring and playing.

### Ideas for Natural Treasure Basket Objects

**Wooden Objects:** Egg cups, bracelets, bowl, napkin ring, spatula, cotton reel and curtain ring.



**Natural Objects:** Fir cones, corks, wooden balls, shaving brush, feathers, and loofa.



**Metal Objects:** Small whisk, CD's, bangle, chain, small potato masher and spoons.



**Other Objects:** Textured materials, beads, small box, sponge and nail brush.



### **Safety**

For safety reasons never leave your baby alone with a treasure basket, and always supervise their playtime with the basket.  
Keep an eye out for any objects that have pieces broken off or have become unsafe and throw them away.