

**Why we
love...**

WATER PLAY

Toy Librarian says:

“Water play is a simple but powerful way for children to explore, learn and regulate through play. It supports sensory experiences, encourages curiosity and creates opportunities for problem-solving and experimentation. Children can practise important skills like pouring, scooping, predicting and observing while building fine motor strength and coordination.

Open-ended and flexible, it works for many different ages, abilities and stages of development. It can be calming and regulating for some children, exciting and exploratory for others, and easily supports solo, parallel or cooperative play. It’s a wonderful way for children to learn through hands-on, joyful play.”

Water play is low pressure, social and interactive. Adults can model language such as pour, splash, empty, full, floating, and sinking while children explore. These shared moments help build vocabulary, support communication and encourage back-and-forth interaction and instruction following.

Water play naturally supports solo play, parallel play and cooperative play. Children may explore independently, play alongside others while observing what they do, or begin working together as confidence grows. It allows children to join in at the stage of social play that feels comfortable for them.

Using cups, scoops, funnels and droppers helps strengthen the small muscles in hands and fingers. These movements support important skills needed later for things like drawing, cutting and writing. Water pouring encourages children to practise using both hands together and coordinating their movements.

W1 Aqua Water Play Table



W5 Waterfall Discovery Wall



S16 Sink Or Float Activity Set



Water play is fun for any child’s interests and stage of development. One day it might be pouring and splashing, the next, a mad scientist, a witch making potions or the captain of a ship. In the backyard, the bath or at the pool, open ended toys are accessible for all children and play styles.

Water play can provide gentle or high energy fun that can help many children feel calm and regulated. Pouring, scooping and watching water move can be soothing, particularly for children who benefit from repetitive or rhythmic play. Water play can be a great for both bodies and emotions.

Water play is a fun way to explore STEM concepts like floating, sinking, cause and effect, and volume. Sink and float activities encourage predictions, adjustments and observations of what happens. Water experimentation builds curiosity and early problem-solving skills.