

Attention Autism

Attention Autism is a programme that we run at school with many of our MLD pupils and pupils in the VB provision. The idea of the programme is to build up attention levels and encouraging the children to be able to focus on activities not of their choice. The sessions move on to turn taking and carrying out tasks independently. Gina Davies created the programme and she has a facebook page 'Gina Davies Autism Centre' which posts ideas on what can be done. She also includes activities that can be carried out in the home environment.

The Attention Autism programme begins with stage 1. Use a bucket, bin or bag and place some wind up toys, musical toys and light up toys in there. Basically anything that is simple, motivating and appealing that will capture the child's attention. The main aim at this stage is to teach the child to independently focus on the adult-led agenda and to take the risk of trying something new. Bang the bin whilst singing ***'I've got something in my bin, in my bin, in my bin. I've got something in my bin I wonder what it is'***. Remove item and play with it for a one minute. Repeat song and remove another item. Of course things may go wrong. The child may get up and walk off etc. This is okay! We need to accept that the child may take a while to focus. Aim for one minute the first day (finish the session after one toy has been got out) and move on from there.

Rules

1. It's my bucket, it's my toys'.

It may seem mean but only the leading adult is allowed to touch the toys. Many children have single channelled attention so if they are playing with the toys, they are not focusing on you. Keep your distance so little hands don't feel tempted to pick up the toys.

2. Add words gradually

We may instinctively want to start adding in language, but it is important to stay quiet and allow for thinking time. Then gradually increase the language. 'Ooh it's a dog'. 'The dog just flipped'. 'Again'. 'flip'. 'The dog flipped'.

3. Avoid using other reinforcers

When carrying out Attention Autism sessions it is important to avoid using other reinforcers in the room at the same time. This is because we want the child to be focusing on the adult led activity and not on their reinforcer. The child can then be given a reinforcer or reward at the end of the session.

5. Repeat and grow the sessions

Aim to carry out the session 4/5 times a week, start at 1 minute and build up slowly. When your child can attend for 5 minutes, you're ready for Stage 2 and remember

"if it's fun, they'll come!"

Flowerpot spaghetti – place 6 flower pots upside down on to a tray. Spray shaving foam on to each pot spray some food colouring on to each pile of foam. Then place another flower pot on to each pile. Push the pot down and watch the coloured foam come out of the flower pot in a spaghetti shape.

100's and 1000's – Same as chickpea shower but use 100's and thousands and pour on to cake tin in to a black tray,

Erupting Volcano - ¼ of a cup of baking powder, ¼ of a cup of Vinegar, 2 spoonful's of sugar. Food colouring, Put sugar in First, then Baking powder then mix together. Add a bit of water to the vinegar, add food colouring to baking powder and sugar then add the vinegar/water.

Water Bottles – big bottle with pierced holes In the bottom, 4 plastic cups, food colouring. Pour water in to 4 different cups with the food colouring already in, then pour each individual cup into the bottle making a waterfall of different colours coming down out the bottle.

Balloons - balloon, funnel, paint/food colouring, water. Fill the balloon up with some water, mix it with paint/food colouring, shake it and mix it together, pop the balloon on the tray.

Fish Bowl Foam - fish bowl, shaving foam/foam, food colouring, water. Fill the bowl up with water, spray foam on top of the water to the rim of the bowl, pour tiny bits of different food colouring in to make colouring rain drops.

Water Beads – Same as the chickpea shower, Clear tube and pour Water beads into the clear tube. Release and allow the beads to fall on the plastic tray

Water Bead's Balloons – Fill the balloon with water beads tie up the balloon, then pop it and let the water beads fall and spread into the black tray

Blowing Bubbles - Need the big black tray, washing up liquid, water and big long straws. Pour lots of water in first, then Place the washing up liquid in the tray, then put the straw in and blow some bubbles. Can add glitter, or food colouring to make it colourful.

Water Waves – Spray some foam in the tray, Spray some food colouring over the foam, get a cup with pierced holes in the bottom of it, drizzle the water over the foam so it washes all away, Shuffle the tray back and forth to make colourful foamy waves.

Spaghetti Shower – Same as chickpea shower but use pieces of spaghetti, fill up 2 plastic cups. Raise it to the air and shake out the spaghetti in to the tray.

Balloons Glitter – Blow up the balloons and sprinkle glitter all around the balloon. Pop the balloon and let the glitter fall on the tray.

Glow up Balloons – Blow up a balloon, put in a glow stick tie up the balloon. Turn the light of. The balloons will glow.

SPONGE RAINBOW



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FLOUR SANDCASTLES



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VINEGAR VOLCANO



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HOME MADE LAVA LAMP



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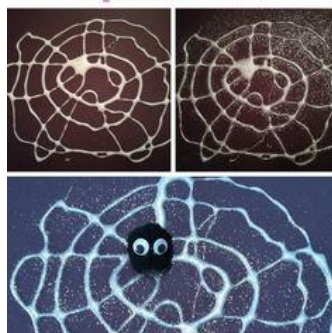
SIMPLE AND EASY SALT PENDULUM



Melting Snowman:
Melting baking soda

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Halloween Glitter Spider Web



FLOUR SHAPES



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Ghost Smash Halloween Activity



- * **Sponge rainbow:** sponge, variety of coloured paint
- * **Flour Sandcastles:** flour, plastic cups
- * **Vinegar Volcano:** vinegar, baking soda, cup (to use as volcano)
- * **Salt Pendulum:** salt (coloured), plastic cup with holes, string
- * **Melting Snowman:** baking soda, water, orange paper (nose), googly eyes
- * **Lava Lamp:** oil, water, food colouring
- * **Ghost Smash:** paper cups with ghost faces drawn on them
- * **Halloween Glitter Spider Webb:** glue, glitter, pompom (spider)
- * **Flour Shapes:** shape cut outs, flour
- * **Balloon Magic:** plastic bottle, balloon, vinegar, flour
- * **Slime Ribbons:** cake cooling rack, coloured slime
- * **Flower pots:** plastic cups, lentil, green paint, coloured paint for flower
- * **Bubble Wrap Paint Rainbow:** bubble wrap, coloured paint
- * **Straw Painting:** coloured paint, plastics straws
- * **Paint Squirt Butterfly:** coloured paint, cups, syringe, paper
- * **Weather in a Cup:** plastic cup, filled with water, shaving cream, food colouring
- * **Seasons & Weather Sensory bottle:** plastic bottle, glycerine, food colouring, glitter, pompom, leaves (fake)
- * **Coloured Milk:** plastic bowl/cup, milk, food colouring
- * **Bubble Snake Creature:** water bottle, sock, rubber bands, soap + water, decoration for bottle
- * **Make a Face:** paper, ribbons, feathers, coloured paper for eyes



Fill cup with lentils, knock it over, drizzle green paint, splat for flower



Straw Painting
blowing paint = fun art



WEATHER IN A CUP!



This science investigation was inspired from Pinterest. The images are from Pinterest or Google Images. Print from www.teachingmama.com

Thank you for downloading the Weather in a Cup activity!

Created by: Shannon Major

Visit my blog for more teaching ideas.

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1. You will need 1 plastic cups. Fill it with water to the top
2. In the first cup place shaving cream on top of the water.
3. Add food colouring into the shaving cream until it starts to fall down through the water

Seasons & Weather SENSORY BOTTLES



TeaInTheWild.com



Fill a dish with milk, then drop food colouring randomly in it. Dip a Q-tip into a dish with soap and then press it on the milk to see the colours react.



Bubble Snake CREATURES

