

MOON SAND

This is a great sensory activity for young child to explore using different senses.

Supplies needed to create moon sand:

- Canola oil
- Flour
- Plastic bin or bowl for mixing
- Large container or cookie sheet to put the sand into to play

Optional items:

- Food coloring
- Spices
- Essential oils
- Crushed up sidewalk chalk for color
- Cookie cutters, spoon, a small container, a muffin mold, an eggcup, an ice cream scoop, small containers to put sand in to make blocks
- Storage container to store moon sand in for future play



**** Even though moon sand is made with food ingredients, do not eat!!****

DIRECTIONS

For a large batch of moon sand:

1. Measure out 1 cup canola oil into mixing bowl or sensory bin.
2. **Optional:** Add about 32 drops of food coloring, if you want a deeper color add more. Whisk. Once the food dye is broken up into small particles add in your flour. You can also add food dye directly into to the flour to create darker colors.
3. Add in 8 cups of flour and mix well with fork. At first, the flour may not stick but keep mixing until it has the consistency of wet sand. You want to be able to form loose sand balls.
4. **Optional:** Add a spice for smell. If you do not want to added food coloring the spices will add color to the sand.
5. Have fun playing with your very own moon sand! Once you are done playing store in a plastic container for next time.

For a smaller batches of moon sand:

1. Measure out 1/4 cup canola oil into mixing bowl or sensory bin.
2. **Optional:** Add about 8 drops of food coloring, if you want a deeper color add more. Whisk. Once the food dye is broken up into small particles add in your flour. You can also add food dye directly into to the flour to create darker colors.
3. Add in 2 cups of flour and mix well with fork. At first, the flour may not stick but keep mixing until it has the consistency of wet sand. You want to be able to form loose sand balls.
4. **Optional:** Add a spice for smell. If you do not want to added food coloring the spices will add color to the sand.
5. Have fun playing with your very own moon sand! Once you are done playing store in a plastic container for next time.



THE MEADOWS CENTER
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Conversations Questions for Young Children:

1. How many senses do you have?
2. Which senses are you utilizing with the moon sand?
3. What color(s) do you see?
4. What do you smell?
5. How does the sand feel?
6. What do you hear?

If you have older children have them help you reduce the recipe.

Question 1: What is $1 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 1: 0.5 or $1/2$

Question 2: What is $.5 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 2: 0.25 or $1/4$

Question 3: What is $32 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 3: 16

Question 4: What is $16 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 4: 8

Question 5: What is $8 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 5: 4

Question 6: What is $4 \div 2 = ?$

Answer 6: 2



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