

*Exploring and developing*  
Dry messy play



**BRAVE  
THE BEAR**

# Dry messy play

## 0-6 MONTHS

- 1 Explore different materials with Baby. Comment on what's happening
- 2 Show tiny babies what happens when you scrunch up strips of paper
- 3 Give them paper to hold
- 4 Try different textures like bubble wrap or greaseproof paper

## 6-12 MONTHS

- 1 Explore different materials with Baby
- 2 Dry rice, pasta, lentils and beans are interesting colours, shapes and textures – use them alone or mixed together. Let Baby explore with their hands where possible
- 3 Put Baby in an upturned box or washing basket with shredded paper. Let them explore
- 4 Cereals like cheerios, cornflakes or weetabix are unusual textures to hold – let your Baby crush them
- 5 Comment on what's happening

## 12-18 MONTHS

- 1 Explore different materials with Baby
- 2 Give Baby toy cars to drive through the rice / pasta / lentils – talk about the patterns they make
- 3 With playdough, squash it, make it long, short or round. Baby can progress to making other things as they develop but for now, just let them explore
- 4 Hide things in sand – help Baby uncover them
- 5 Use toy cars, buckets, spades and tubs to make the sand more interesting
- 6 Comment on what's happening