

## Create a water play area at nursery

### Resources

- Water tray, paddling pool or bowl
- Different sized bottles, cups, bowls, spoons, jugs, baby dolls, boats
- Pebbles
- Bubbles, essential oils, colouring.

Once you are all set up, ensure you vary your water activities to provide different role-play opportunities for your children. The more variety you can offer in your water area, the more children can use their imagination and relate what they see to their play.

### Activity Outline

1. Wash babies in a bubble bath
2. Use sailing boats
3. Make 'cups of tea' with the water and the plastic vessels, extend mathematical development with measuring
4. Explore textures with bubbles, pebbles, essential oils and colouring.

### Working with babies

- Fill a tough spot or shallow tray with water
- Make sure the room is warm and you have plenty of towels
- Hold younger babies safely in your arms and dip their feet gently into the water, allowing them to splash
- Model language back to them by repeating the happy sounds they make as they splash!

### Special considerations

*Remember to risk assess, check for allergies when using essential oils and to supervise children.*