**Mystery Bag Activity Instructions**

# Goal:

To encourage children to investigate, predict, expand their vocabulary, and explain their thinking.

# How-to:

1. Put one item into the bag (without the children watching you do this).
2. Show children the bag and tell them, “This is a mystery bag. We have to guess what is inside.”
3. Allow them to interact with the bag (look at, feel, reach into) in order to guess what is inside.
   * Do not let them look inside!
4. Prompt them to guess what the item inside might be, and to explain their reasoning.
   * Use questions like:
     + What do you think is inside?
     + How would you describe what you feel?
     + Why did you guess it was a… ?
     + Have you ever felt anything like that before?
     + What do you think you can do with it?
5. Reveal what the item is and ask follow up questions.
   * For instance, ask them to compare what they thought with what it actually is, or ask them how they feel now that they have seen the item.