

Frog Beanbags

Physical:

Items required are felt beanbags of different colors, in the shape of frogs (pattern follows), a piece of green felt with a 14 inch diameter (doesn't need to be exact) with a bright pink flower in the middle.

Place box of beanbags and felt lily pad on the floor. Gather all your participants around the table and greet each one by name, eye contact, and touch.

Bring up one beanbag and share it with one of the participants. Help them hold the beanbag and feel the softness of the felt and the heaviness of the beans. Pass the beanbag to the next participant and do the same. Continue until each player has held the beanbag. (At this point you are not concerned about the "frog" label. Participants are simply encouraged to physically relate to the object.)

Once everyone has handled the beanbag, bring up all the others and place at least one in front of each participant. Put the "lily pad" in the center of the table and ask participants to toss their beanbag onto the lily pad.

Remove the lily pad and ask participants to toss or slide their frogs to other players across the table. End the activity by asking them to throw their frogs into a basket or box.

Cognitive:

Items required are felt beanbag frogs and a felt lily pad.

Gather participants around the table and introduce them to the beanbags by placing the frogs in the center of the table.

Grasp one beanbag and show it to each participant, asking each to look at the frog. Having them touch the frog will sometimes help direct their gaze to the beanbag. Share an informative observation. "This is a toy frog. Feel the felt. It's soft, but it's also a bit heavy."

"What color is this frog?" You may need to provide other cues. "Is this frog yellow?" Show other participants and ask the same question. "Is this frog yellow?" "Yes, this is yellow." Then hand the yellow frog to one of the participants and bring up a second frog. Perform the same routine with each frog until everyone has a least one frog beanbag.

Next, ask participants to toss their frogs onto the lily pad following specific directions. "Find the red frog. Toss the red frog onto the lily pad." Hands-on help may be needed and you might need to move the lily pad closer to the players to ensure success.

Present a color word card and ask that participants read the card. You must be sure to get his or her attention so move the card close to each player. You may need to say, "This word is red." Then ask them to find a red frog. Direct them to toss the red frog onto the lily pad. Then move on to another color and another participant. Continue until all the frogs are on the lily pad.

The following song can be sung to enhance the activity even more!

FROGGIE WENT A COURTIN'

Froggie went a courtin' and he did ride, mmhmm
Froggie went a courtin' and he did ride
Sword and pistol by his side, mmhmm

He rode til he came to Miss Mouse's hall, mmhmm
He rode til he came to Miss Mouse's hall
Gave a knock and gave a call, mmhmm

Said he Miss Mouse you within, mmhmm
Said he Miss Mouse are you within
Yes kind sir I sit and spin, mmhmm

He took Miss Mouse upon his knee, mmhmm
He took Miss Mouse upon his knee
He said Miss Mouse will you marry me, mmhmm

Without my uncle rat's consent, mmhmm
Without my uncle rat's consent
I would not marry the president, mmhmm

