

We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the x̣m̄θkwəȳəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

# FUNCTIONAL PLAY

Functional play is a child's first form of play which continues throughout childhood. It is play where there are new objects to investigate. From infancy, children examine objects and materials to learn about how things work and go together. When the environment offers materials and objects that are challenging and interesting, children are motivated to explore. (Play Today! BC Handbook, p. 24)



## Activity — Sand Play

- Fill a wide, shallow container with enough sand to allow children to cover and uncover small objects.
- Household utensils can be used for digging, pouring and sifting.
- Allow your child to explore and ask questions like “how does the sand feel?”
- Add stones, shells and other natural materials.
- Sand play can take place inside or outside.

## Books

- The Great Day by Taro Gomi
- My Colors, My World by Maya Christina Gonzalez

## Fingerplays

### Five Fat Peas

Five fat peas in a pod pressed (*child holds hand in a fist*).

One grew, two grew, so did the rest (*put thumb and fingers up one by one*).

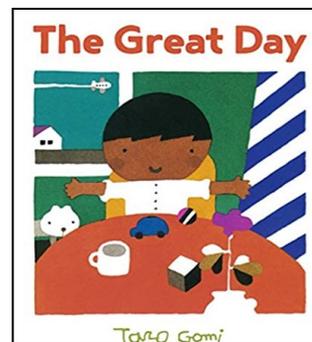
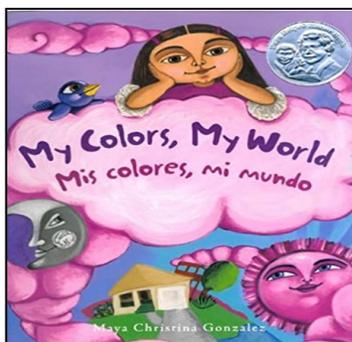
They grew and grew (*raise hand in the air very slowly*).

And did not stop.

Until one day, the pod went POP (*child claps hands together*).

## Reference

Let's Play! Activities for Families: Set 1 Engagement with Others, Materials and the World. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/earlylearning/lets-play-engagement.pdf>



### Here is a Beehive

Here is the beehive, where are the bees? (*clench fist and bring out fingers quickly one by one*).

Hidden away where nobody sees.

Watch and you will see them come out of their hives,  
One, two, three, four, five.

Buzz, buzz, buzz!

vsb