



# THE FLOWERS



## INTRODUCTION

Flowers are an attractive and colorful material made of high-quality plastic; you can create multiple floral arrangements. For children from 3 to 6.

❖ **The material** allows children to exercise their sensory-motor skills, manipulating the shapes and colors of flowers in free or direct activities:

- 3 types of flowers in 2 sizes and 6 colours (36 pcs)
- 3 types of disk florets in 6 colours.
- 22 green stems.
- 8 connectable bases

Connectable bases	Stems	3 different flowers in two sizes and 6 colours	3 shapes of disk florets in 6 colours
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The manual offers multiple activities to be organized in small groups: language, sensory, mathematical activities. They are divided per age and per educational objective to be pursued,

- ❖ **A series of 16 sheets** with progressive difficulty will allow children to use the different properties of this material:
- 7 sequential image sheets with the aim of learning to follow a succession of editing steps and to decode the different images to reach the final realization.
  - 9 reproduction files whose objective is to develop the sense of observation and by reading a single image, to visually break down the different elements of the floral composition, then respecting the order to reach the final realization.

Finally, let's not forget that this material remains a game above all and that free activities allow children to develop imagination and autonomy.

# SUMMARY

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## THE ACTIVITES

### DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

- Connectable bases SHEET N°1 p 4
- Flowers SHEET N°2 p 5

### SENSORY- FINE MOTOR ACTIVITIES

- Sorting by colour SHEET N °3 p 6
- Sorting by shape SHEET N °4 p 7
- Sorting by shape and size SHEET N° 5 p 8
- Working with 2 sorting criteria (1) SHEET N° 6 p 9
- Working with 2 sorting criteria (2) SHEET N° 7 p 10

### MATHS ACTIVITIES

- Big, medium, small SHEET N°8 p 11
- Alternations (1) SHEET N°9 p 12
- Alternations (2) SHEET N°10 p 13
- Filling in SHEET N°11 p 14
- Topology SHEET N°12 p 15

### INDIPENDENT ACTIVITIES

- Sequential images SHEET N°13 p 16
- Copy a model SHEET N°14 P 17

## CONNECTABLE BASES



- **AGE** From 3 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Make a sensory experience of the material by touching and manipulating it.  
Learning to connect bases.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Surprise children by placing the bases on a table, for example, but without the flowers in a first time.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

Let the children touch the bases and help them to connect them.

This activity may take several sessions depending on the age and ability of each child.

You can use the activity sheet N ° 1 and 2.

Start with 2 bases, then 3 and so on.

Connect some bases lengthwise and some other in round.

This first step is essential for children to become independent to explore the game.

Children are sure to be answered if they ask what these bases are for. We will collect their hypotheses and finally we'll show them the flowers.

## FLOWERS



- **AGE** From 3 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Sensory discovery of the material in order to be able to manipulate and experience it. Learn to fit the flowers into the base and into each other.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

Surprise children by placing on a table, for example, bases and flowers.

- **USE**

Ask the children put together two bases. Help them if necessary.

Let the children handle the flowers and help them to put them first in the base and then One flower inside the other.

This first step is essential for children to become independent and get familiar with the game.

## SORTING BY COLOUR



- **AGE** From 3 years
- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**  
Learning to sort by one criterion.  
Identify colours and learn to name them.
- **WHAT YOU NEED**  
On a table place 7 small boxes without any label, in this way the sorting activity will be better understood.  
A basket with flowers and stems.
- **HOW TO PLAY**  
In groups of 4 or 6 children.  
Ask the children to sort all the pieces by colour.  
Check with the children if the sorting is right.  
Ask the children to name the different colours.
- **EXTENSION**  
Once the sorting activity is done, it is possible to put a sticker on the boxes to make the future activities simpler.

## SORTING BY SHAPE



- **AGE** From 3 years
- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**  
Learning to sort by one criterion.  
Identify shapes and learn to name them.
- **WHAT YOU NEED**  
On a table place 7 small boxes without any label, in this way the sorting activity will be better understood.  
A basket with flowers and stems.
- **HOW TO PLAY**  
In groups of 4 or 6 children.  
Ask the children to sort all the pieces by shape.  
Check with the children if the sorting is right.  
Ask the children to name the different shapes.
- **EXTENTION**  
Once the sorting activity is done, it is possible to put a sticker with the corresponding shape on the boxes to make the future activities simpler.

## SORTING BY SHAPES AND SIZE



- **AGE** From 4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning to sort by two criteria: shape and size.  
Identify shapes and sizes and learn to name them.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

On a table place 6 small boxes without any label, in this way the sorting activity will be better understood.

A basket with flowers, without disk florets and stems.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 or 6 children.

Ask the children to sort all the pieces that have same shape and size.

Check with the children if the sorting is right.

- **EXTENTION**

Once the sorting activity is done, it is possible to put a sticker on the boxes representing the shape and size, to make the future activities simpler.



## WORKING WITH 2 SORTING CRITERIA (1)



- **AGE** From 5 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning to work with two criteria: same shape and different colours.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place on a table 8 bases and a basket with all the flowers.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.

Ask each child to connect two bases.

Then state the instruction: "Plant flowers of the same shape but different colours in your base.". Do not hesitate to repeat the instruction several times before and during the activity.  
Collect comments and check with the children if the activity is right.

**WORKING WITH 2 SORTING CRITERIA (1)**

- **AGE** From 5 years
- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**  
Learning to work with two criteria: same colours and different shapes.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.
- **WHAT YOU NEED**  
Place on a table 8 bases and a basket with all the flowers.
- **HOW TO PLAY**  
In groups of 4 children.  
Ask each child to connect two bases.  
Then state the instruction: "Plant flowers of the same colour but different shapes in your base.". Do not hesitate to repeat the instruction several times before and during the activity.  
Collect comments and check with the children if the activity is right.
- **EXTENTION**  
It is possible for 4- 5 years old children to introduce a third criteria: the number. In this case, it will be necessary to add at least one base.  
Ask the children to create 3 or 4 flowers on the basis of the above-mentioned criteria of shape and size.

**BIG, MEDIUM, SMALL**



- **AGE** From 4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Distinguish sizes and learn to order them.  
Verbal exchanges

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Prepare a basket with all the flowers.  
8 bases.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.

Ask the children to connect two bases.

Then state the instruction: «Plant a big flower, then a medium one and finally a small one».

Some children will focus on the size of the flowers. Other children the height of the flowers.

All of them will be right.

ALTERNATIONS (1)



- **AGE** From 4 years old

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning alternations.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place 8 bases on a table and a basket with all flowers.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.

Ask the children to connect two bases. It will be possible to add other bases to get a longer combination.

Then state the instruction: «Plant a series of flowers in your base: a blue flower, an orange flower and so on”. Do not hesitate to repeat the instruction several times before and during the activity.

Collect comments and check with the children if the exercise is correct.

- **EXTENTION**

For 5-year-olds, we can add a third term to the work-study program: a-b-c. In this case, it will be necessary to add at least one base element. Then, we will complicate the rest depending on the age and maturity of the children: 2a-b-2a or 1a-2b-3c. In this case, at least two base elements must be added. The combinations can be varied infinitely.

**ALTERNATIONS (2)**



- **AGE** From 4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning alternations.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place 8 bases on a table and a basket with all flowers.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.

Ask the children to connect two bases. It will be possible to add other bases to get a longer combination.

Then state the instruction: « Plant a yellow flower with the purple disk floret and a yellow flower with the pink disk floret and start again”. Do not hesitate to repeat the instruction several times before and during the activity.

Collect comments and check with the children if the exercise is correct.

- **EXTENTION**

For children from 5 years old, we can vary and make the alternations more complicated.

**FILLING IN**



- **AGE** From 4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learning alternations.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place on a table 3 bases of 3 elements.  
For each of them prepare an alternation of flowers and remove an item.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 3 children.  
State the instruction: «find and plant the flower that is missing».  
Collect comments and check with the children if the exercise is correct.

- **EXTENTION**

For children from 5 years old, we can vary and make the alternations more complicated by adding more missing items.

**TOPOLOGY**



- **AGE** From 5 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Get familiar with the space positions.  
Listen to an instruction and achieve it.  
Develop visual discrimination.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place 8 bases on a table and a basket with all the flowers.  
Choose an object or an animal and place it on the table: in front of, behind, closed to the composition. In the exemple you can see a caterpillar.

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.  
Ask the children to connect two bases.  
Then state the instruction: « Complete the bases with the flowers you prefer ».  
Surprise children showing an object or an animal and announce the second instruction to each child: « Place the object or the animal in front of the flowers »; « Place it behind the flowers»; « Place it near the flowers».

- **EXTENTION**

For older children it is possible to introduce the concept of left and right.



SEQUENTIAL IMAGES



- **AGE** From 4 years old

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learn to follow a succession of editing steps and to decode the different images to reach the final realization.

Develop visual discrimination.

Develop autonomy.

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place on a table all the bases and all the flowers.

Choose the sheets according to the pedagogical goal you want to achieve

Sheet N°1	Configurations of the bases	Fine motor skill
Sheet N°2	In 3 steps	Symmetry
Sheet N°3	In 5 steps	2 levels of height
Sheet N°4	In 3 steps	Topology*
Sheet N°5	In 3 steps	Topology*
Sheet N°6	In 4 steps	Symmetry
Sheet N°7	In 5 steps	Symmetry

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children

Ask the children to build one or more bases according to the chosen activity sheet.

Then state the instruction: "By following the different steps photographed, make the composition". Help the children at the start without hesitating to repeat the instruction and make sure it is understood.

Check with them the accuracy of their realization, collect comments.



COPY A MODEL



- **AGE** From 4 years

- **EDUCATIONAL GOALS**

Learn to read a picture.  
 Take clues to reproduce the composition.  
 Develop visual discrimination.  
 Develop autonomy

- **WHAT YOU NEED**

Place on a table all the bases and all the flowers.  
 Choose the sheets according to the pedagogical goal you want to achieve.

Sheet N°8	3 stacking levels
Sheet N°9	Topology*
Sheet N°10	Symmetry, topology*
Sheet N°11	Alternance
Sheet N°12	Symmetry
Sheet N°13	Alternation
Sheet N°14	Symmetry, topology*
Sheet N°15	Topology
Sheet N°16	Random

- **HOW TO PLAY**

In groups of 4 children.  
 Ask the children to build one or more bases according to the chosen activity sheet.  
 Then state the instruction: "Carry on the composition". Help the children at the start to help them get ideas.  
 Check with them the accuracy of their realization, collect comments.