

## SAND STORYTELLING



**Recommended Ages:** 2 - 6 YO

**Group size limits:** 10

**Time required:** 20-30 min

**Materials:** Kinetic sand, a bag with cardboard characters (3 characters per child).

1. **Introduction to the activity:**

- Gather the children around a large table or on the floor, where they can all reach the kinetic sand.
- Explain that today, they will use sand to create magical stories together.

2. **Exploring the sand:**

- Give each child some kinetic sand. Encourage them to **touch, squeeze, and shape** the sand, explaining how it can become anything they imagine.
- Begin a guided play session where the facilitator describes different natural elements. For example:
  - “Can you make it rain with the sand?” (Let the sand fall between their fingers like raindrops.)
  - “Let’s create a waterfall.” (Move the sand as if it’s flowing water.)
  - “Can you imagine the ocean?” (Flatten the sand to resemble the sea.)
- As you go through each of these, have the children repeat **key words** aloud (e.g., “rain,” “waterfall,” “ocean”) to reinforce the storytelling atmosphere.

3. **Building with sand:**

- After playing with the sand, encourage the children to create small shapes or structures. Ask them to describe what they’ve built. For example, “What is that you made from sand? Is it a mountain or maybe a castle?”

4. **Magic Bag - Choosing Characters:**

- Introduce the “Magic Bag” filled with cardboard characters.
- Let each child take turns pulling out **three characters** from the bag.
- Encourage them to describe who their characters are (e.g., “I have a dragon, a princess, and a wizard.”).

5. **Creating a story:**

- Now that they have their sand structures and characters, guide the children to **create their own short story**. Encourage them to think about how their characters interact with what they’ve built from sand.
- Give examples to help spark ideas, such as: “Maybe your dragon is guarding the sandcastle? Or perhaps the princess is sailing across the sand sea?”

6. **Storytelling Time:**

- Once the children have finished creating their sand scenes, go around the group and let each child briefly **share their story**.
- Encourage them to use the key words they learned earlier (rain, waterfall, ocean) and point to their sand creations while telling their tale.

7. **Closing the activity:**

- Thank the children for their creativity and remind them how they used both **sand and imagination** to create their stories.
- Collect the characters and begin the transition to the next activity.