



★ **SENSORY EXPLORATION**

Investigating Seeds

OBJECTIVES:

1. Children explore seeds from different kinds of melon and learn that seeds come in different shapes and sizes.
2. Children describe the texture, smell and color of melons and melon seeds.
3. Children use scientific inquiry skills to predict, observe, describe and compare.

WHAT YOU MIGHT NEED:

Watermelon and cantaloupe
Spoons
Bowls for seeds

WHAT YOU MIGHT DO:

- In a large group, introduce the melon activity: “Today we will be exploring melons!”
- Take out the watermelon and cantaloupe and name them for the children.
- Have the children describe the differences between the two melons. Which is larger? Smoother? Heavier?
- Invite the children to try knocking on the melons. How does it sound?
- Ask the children what they think is inside of the melons. Explain that melons have seeds inside because they are fruits, and all fruits have seeds!
- Have the children guess what the cantaloupe will look like on the inside. (Color, seeds, etc.).
- Wash and cut the melon in half (teachers cut melon in half, being careful to stabilize the melon so it doesn't roll).
- Show children the inside of the melon and encourage them to describe what they see (How many seeds, color of fruit and seeds, etc.).
- Now ask if the children can guess what color seeds and fruit are inside of the green watermelon.
- Wash and cut the watermelon in half (teachers cut melon in half, being careful to stabilize the melon so it doesn't roll).
- Show the children the difference in the melons. The cantaloupe seeds are all together and the watermelon seeds are spread throughout!

