

## Sensorial

### Explore the magic of ice

Through their senses, children explore their environment. This experience then becomes the basics of their ability to classify the things around them.

A nice scientific experiment for toddlers and also a great sensorial experience is the differentiation between warm and cold.

#### What you will need:

- Two glasses – the same
- Water
- A bowl of ice cubes
- A spoon/ice tongs
- A towel

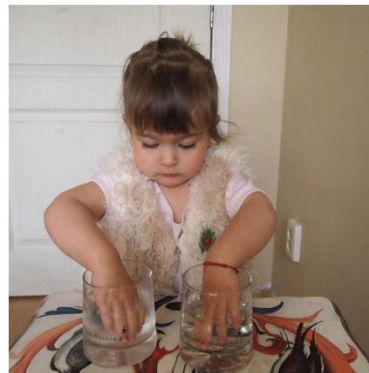
#### How to do it?

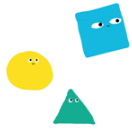
**Start earlier**, before preparing the experiment. Talk about warm/hot and cold in general. Touch something warm, touch something cold. Name the sensation every time without an excess of words – just “warm” or “cold.”

Then announce that you are doing an experiment and **set it**

**up together**. You can give them one by one the glasses and have them carry the glasses to the place you have chosen for the experiment (preferably a small table where they can sit and be comfortable). If you have a small jug, you can have the toddler bring water and pour in the glasses but you have to preset the water, to be sure that water in both glasses will be of the same temperature, a bit warm. Bring the bowl of ice cubes yourself. Last comes the spoon/ice tongs because the child will want to use it immediately. Don't forget the towel.

**Begin the experiment**. First let the toddler dip both hands in water, each in a separate glass. Tell them that water in both glasses is of the same temperature and it is warm. For older toddlers you can ask them if it is cold or warm. Then have them transfer some of





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the ice cubes in only one of the glasses and stir until they cannot see any ice. Then let them dip both hands in a different glass again.

For older toddlers, you can talk – ask if it is different, how it is different and can they imagine why it became different. For younger – just let them enjoy the sensation and explore.



You can **bring further** the exploration of ice if you let them have ice forms as construction material. This last activity is appropriate, of course, for hot weather or hot environment at home.