

How to Make a Search and Find Bottle

- Collect a clean and empty water bottle. Make sure it has been open to the air and is completely dry on the inside. Remove the label.
- It is easier to put the treasures in first and the rice on top.
- Add about 1 cup of rice (about 2/3 full). We used a 10 kg bag of rice to make about 25 bottles.
- Add in a variety of small objects that may include: Try to include at least 20 objects in each bottle.
 - Beads or buttons of various colors and shapes (not white or gray as they don't show up)
 - Animals of any kind that will fit in the bottles; foam, erasers, plastic or even stickers of animals that you cut out of their sticker paper.
 - Small birthday cake candle (for young children to practice blowing)
 - Feather
 - Foam or plastic letters of the alphabet
 - Foam or plastic numbers
 - Piece of string or wool
 - Colored marbles
 - Tiny seasonal erasers (like valentines or easter ones, esp animals or shapes)
 - Small foam shapes
 - Sparkly things like beads or stars
 - Small jingle bells
 - Rice, lots of it
 - Any other small things that can teach colors, shapes, counting, sound, but no candy!

Make sure to put multiples of some objects so you can work on the concept of matching and counting.

Make sure to put in objects of different size and color but from same category (beads, letters, shapes etc)

For older children add in more letters and numbers

- Put the lid on tightly
- Wrap the lid with packing tape so it can't come off
- Shake it,
- provide the "how to play with a search and find bottle handout"
- Have fun