SPARK: Simple Play Adaptations to Reference for Kids

SpinnyPins

(Small Muscle Development Kit – EC COE)

Description:	Image:
Five wobbly textured pins can be sorted right side up or upside down into a weighted bowl. Each pin is textured and colorful and the bowl has a chime built inside that adds to sensory discovery while experimenting with balance and movement. The bowl is designed to always be off balance. The pins are approximately 3.75" tall and 2" in diameter and the bowl measures 7.5" x 7.5" x 3.25". BPA-free.	 Purchasing Information Demo Video

Who Might Benefit?

Those who…

- Have a weak or inefficient grasp.
- Enjoy exploring textures.
- Need to develop grip and finger strength in order to use other learning materials such as writing tools.
- Need visual and auditory materials to support attention to activity.

Why Use?

Provides an opportunity to…

- Explore the feel of the textured shapes on each pin.
- Practice manipulating pins to place them in the holes in the bowl.
- Strengthen fine motor skills.
- Match the color of the pin to the color of the hole in the bowl.
- Fidget quietly to help maintain focus.

Instructions for Use:	Adaptation Ideas:
Environmental Considerations • Can be used at home or in school. • Built in chime may be distracting to others playing or working in the immediate area.	**Optional Additional Materials/Supplies** • Dycem • Shelf liner

Positioning

- Spinny Pins can be used in any position; seated, standing, on the floor, etc.
- Spinny Pins bowl should be placed on a flat surface.

Basic Play/Use

- Open ended exploration (e.g. picking up and putting down pins, pushing pins to make them rock back and forth, poking at the bowl to make it rock).
- Placing the pins in the holes in the bowl (Pins can be placed in the holes upside down OR right side up).
- Matching colors of the pins to the corresponding colors of the holes in the bowl.

Extended Play/Use

- Work on gripping and manipulation of pins to place them upright on the floor or push them into the holes in the bowl.

Play/Use with Others

- Work on turn taking to place the pins in the bowl.
- Recreate Spinny Pin colors on dice. Have the children take turns rolling the dice and locating the pin of the same color and place it in the bowl.

Stabilize It

- Use Dycem or shelf liner to stabilize the Spinny Pin bowl for children who may push it out of reach when attempting to push the pins in the holes in the bowl.

Simplify It

- Reduce the number of pins to explore.
- Don't use the bowl at first.

Contain it

- Place Spinny Pins and bowl in a shallow box lid (e.g. a copy paper box lid) so that the Spinny Pins bowl and pin remain in reach.

Add Sensory Cues

- Place Spinny Pins and Bowl on a high contrast color mat or sheet of construction paper

Communication Support

- Guide possible selections with pointing; use vocabulary such as "push" "pick up", "put in", "find (insert names of colors)".

Alternative Uses

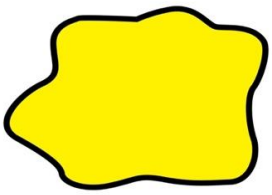
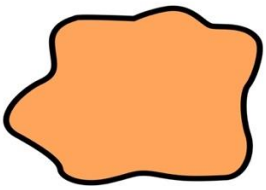
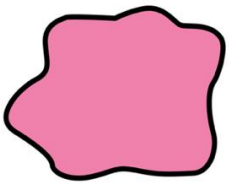
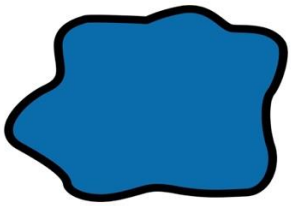
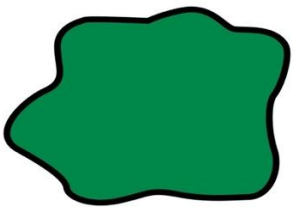
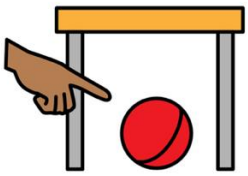
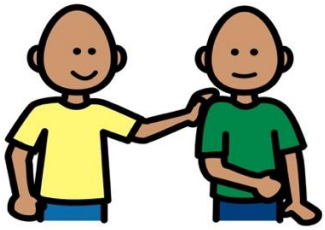
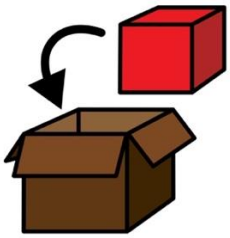
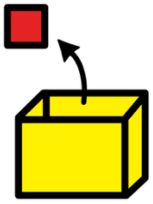
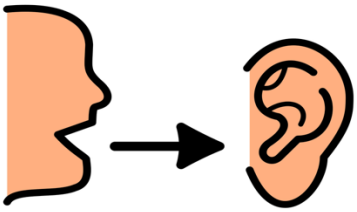
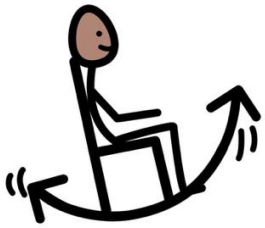
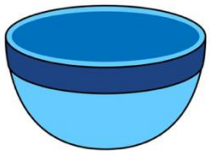
- Use to teach names of colors.
- Play a bowling game with the pins.
- Match the colored pins to colored circles.
- Press the textured side of the Spinny Pins into play dough.
- Push Spinny Pins through holes cut in boxes.

Additional Considerations:

Ohio Early Learning Standards

- PW: Motor Development: Demonstrates developing control of fundamental fine motor skills, including hand-eye coordination (1.b.).
- AL: Engagement and Persistence: Persists in completing a task with increasing concentration (1.c.).
- CD: Problem-Solving and Development: Uses increasingly complex strategies to solve problems (3.a.).

Words to Encourage Play/Use

Yellow 	Orange 	Pink 
Blue 	Green 	Find 
Touch 	Push 	Put in 
Take out 	Listen 	Rock 
Bowl 	Pin 	

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