

# Treasure Baskets.

A treasure basket is filled with a variety of objects which can be changed, added too and replaced at any time .Each treasure basket will contain a unique collection of objects which could be on a theme i.e. A Bible story, Baptism or consisting of objects made from natural materials suitable for babies and very young children.

## Safety

*Although supervision will be given at all times, when choosing objects for heuristic play and treasure baskets, keep safety in mind. Always maintain the objects in the treasure baskets , check for cleanliness and safety .Discard unsuitable items and collect new ones .Do not give babies keys or metals that can be dangerous if sucked. Young children will mouth objects so ensure they cannot be swallowed and there are no sharp edges or small pieces which could break off.*



*Black and white basket*



## Ideas for Sensory Baskets.

### **Objects made from natural materials:**

Clothes pegs, small baskets, shaving brush, small raffia mat,

### **Objects in leather textiles, fur, rubber:**

Coloured ribbons, rubber ball, fur fabric, small soft toys, velvet, powder puff, woollen ball.

### **Wooden objects:**

Honey dipper, wooden egg cup, large beads on a string, curtain rings, spoons, wooden nail brush, sanded wood cut offs, small wooden bowls

### **Natural objects:**

Fir cones, shells, large pebbles, big feathers, natural sponge, a pumice stone.



*Items in fabrics*

## Ideas for setting up a focus area/ Bible themed baskets

Use materials/items that are connected with Bible stories, worship or the sacraments .You could also use the seasons or church year colours as a focus for your display table or baskets. Most items will work across several different themes, therefore allowing you to create many different baskets /focus table displays. If setting up a specific area consider purchasing a bright coloured rug, good containers for the items , a small simple table can be covered with a piece of fabric in the colour to fit your theme, have a Godly play story out on the table .If using storage consider using some that is on wheels that can be moved if necessary .The only limit to this is your imagination; once you start it is quite easy to get carried away!

### Autumn/Harvest

Use Orange fabric to cover your display table

Leaves, twigs, large stones, hessian fabric.

Hungry caterpillar toy / fabric fruit and vegetables/soft play tractor, soft toy hedgehogs, farm animals, simple wooden figures.

The Parable of the Sower Story Book



A Baptism basket

Baby doll, white fabric, large shell, rainmaker, battery candle holding cross, small metal jug, first bible story book, Baptism cube .

### Creation

Variety of coloured textured fabrics , fabric leaves, animal finger puppets , inflatable globe , fish, starfish , any soft toy animal, stars, moon, sun in fabrics, creation story book, Adam and Eve fabric dolls or wooden figures , rainmaker , toy trees, twigs, shells .

Sue Mitchell, Liverpool Diocese  
April 2015

