

Objective: The child uses their senses to explore cookie dough and builds early math skills.

## Materials needed:

Cookie dough (any kind) \*Do only if not-allergic\* 1 large Ziploc bag & Cookie cutters (optional)

## Procedures

- 1. Have your child sit at a small table.
- 2. Place the cookie dough on a tray. Flatten it out with your hands. Encourage your child to do it with you. Use adjective words to describe to your child what it feels like and ask child too.
- 3. Build early math skills by making balls with it. Count the balls (#1-5 only), make different sizes (big and small), and teach it's shape (circle) or letter (Oo).
- 4. Let your child grab at the balls to pick them up and squeeze them to build hand strength.
- 5. Watch and let your child play with the cookie dough freely, this is how they learn, by doing and experimenting on own.



- 6. Extend learning by showing your child how to make cookie cutter prints in the dough, teaching and saying the shapes you made that they are seeing. Have child repeat the shape words after you say them. Hand them a cookie cutter and encourage child to make a print with it.
- 7. Put some cookie dough in a large Ziploc baggie, close it tightly and allow your child to squeeze it freely to make "less-mess" and still build hand strength and sensory discovery!

## Milestones to meet:

The child can pick up the cookie dough and squeeze it or make prints in it with their fingers. The child uses their fine-motor skills and builds hand strength by pressing cookie cutters in the dough.

## **Evaluation:**

Did this lesson work for your child? Why or why not?