

## Parent Instruction-Mystery Bag

**Materials:** A bag with familiar but surprising objects inside which will fit in the child's hand. These should represent a variety of textures and materials (such as a rock, walnut, thimble, key, candle, fir cone, rope, top of a jar, cotton, yarn, seed pod, paper clip, rubber band, etc.) Have about ten objects at a time and change them from time to time to maintain interest.

**Purposes:** To refine the stereognostic perception  
Development of the ability to visualize mentally

### Steps:

1. Invite your child to work with the Mystery Bag at a table or rug.
2. Sit by his right side if you are right-handed or by his left side if you are left-handed.
3. Put the Mystery bag on your lap.
4. Introduce: There are many objects in this bag. I am going to identify what they are without looking.
5. Hold the bag with one hand and with the other hand reach into the bag, choose an object, and feel it.
6. While feeling, visually show (make face expressions) that you are thinking (metacognition).
7. Identify the object before it comes out of the bag; and say: "It feels like a \_\_\_\_\_."
8. Remove the object, place it to the left side of the table or rug, and say: "It is a \_\_\_\_\_."
9. Keep going until done with all the objects in the bag (line them up to the right).
10. When done with all, ask your child the name of each object pointing to it.
  - a. Return to the bag the objects he recognized.
  - b. Keep the objects he doesn't recognize (do not put them back in the bag, and do not allow your child see you keeping it separate).
11. Now tell your child: It's your turn to do it; suggest to put the bag on lap.
12. Let him doing it by himself, fade and observe.
13. You may put back the objects after he puts the Mystery Bag back to the shelf.

### Language:

- Give the names of the objects in the bag well before working with them.
- Offer a Three Period Lesson with the objects the child couldn't name.

### Notes:

- Change out the objects from time to time to renew the interest.
- Keep the bag on the lap to prevent from interfering with objects on the table.

### Links:

- For parents- Sensorial-Video  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLCD4839B4112AC9B8&v=NlnHVxJKEiM>

- Strengthen Language and Senses with the Mystery Bag Game  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtZELOJxOYk>
- The stereo-gnostic sense-Description  
<https://www.montessoridaoshi.com/single-post/2018/03/12/Montessori-Monday-The-Stereognostic-Sense>