

# Soap Factory

## Best for Ages

2+

## Workspace

Flat indoor surface

## Is electricity required?

No

## Description

Soap factory is a fun way to explore and be curious using soap and water!

## Materials

- **Soap:** bar soap, liquid hand soap, dish soap
- **Water**
- **Grater:** cheese grater or hard object to scrape the soap such as silverware
- **Stirring device:** whisk, spatula, spoon
- **Bowls:** cereal bowl, mixing bowl, casserole dish
- **Towels**

## What to Do

1. If using bar soap, grate or scrape some of it into a small bowl. If using liquid soap, pour some into the bowl.
2. Add water into the soap.
3. Whisk or stir the soap and water together in order to create bubbles. Explore using other stirring devices and types of soap.
4. Try using different amounts of soap and water. What do you notice about the bubbles that are formed?



## Concepts Explored

- Fine Motor skills
- Cause and effect

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## Troubleshooting Tips

- Younger kids may need help grating/scraping soap. Show them how to safely use a grater or scraping tool. Encourage them to try by themselves before offering help.
- This may get messy, but that's okay! Have some towels handy to clean up spills. This is a fun activity to explore outside.



How can we make more bubbles?

Do the different soaps mix with the water differently?

How does the mixture feel?

## What is Happening?

- Your child is practicing **fine motor skills**, or coordination of their small muscles, while scraping, whisking and stirring the soap. Flexing and working the muscles in the hand and arm will help in holding a pencil and using scissors.
- Children are also learning and exploring **cause and effect**. The stirring and whisking motion causes bubbles to form.

## Taking it Forward

- Connecting this activity to the real world: notice other places and activities where bubbles are formed. Perhaps during bath time or when hand washing dishes.
- If you like this activity, you'll also like [Bubbles](#) and [Ice Balloons](#).
- Learn more about this activity at your local library:
  - Happy Bubble by Two Astronauts
  - The Ultimate Bubble Book: Soapy Science Fun by Shar Levine & Leslie Johnstone