

A Baker's Dozen: Playing with Pots, Pans, Bowls, and Other Containers

- Stack the containers. Make tall towers. Listen and watch them as the containers fall down! *Uh oh! Crash. That was loud! Let's make it again. Let's make it bigger.*
- Count the containers. *How many bowls? How many pots?*
- Organize the containers by size: big to little.
- Match the containers by color. Match by shapes.
- Describe similarities and differences between the containers. *What is the difference between a pot and a pan?*
- Discuss what the containers are used for.
- Be creative and think of other uses for the containers. Hats . . . Hiding place for balls . . . Home for ants . . .
- Practice pouring water from one container to another. This is best performed either outside or in the bathtub or sink.
- Pretend to be in a band. Find wooden spoons, metal spoons, plastic spoons or sticks. Tap on the containers. Listen to the different sounds made by different utensils. *Let's go fast. Let's go slow.*
- Clang the containers against each other pretending to be cymbals.
- Listen to music as you tap on the containers. Try to match the rhythm of the music.
- Follow the rhythm that your child creates. Have your child try to follow your rhythm.
- Put varying levels of water in the different containers. Tap on the containers and listen to the variety of sounds produced. *Let's make a song.*

