Make a seed shaker

Seeds come in different shapes and sizes, from small, fluffy dandelion seeds to big, shiny conkers. When seeds fall to the ground, they’re ready to grow into a new plant.

With your child, make a seed shaker and explore the different sounds that seeds make!

You will need:

- A plastic bottle (recycled)
- A selection of different seeds
- A collecting bag

1. With your child, go for a walk in your local woodland or park.
   Look closely at the ground. Can you see any seeds that have fallen from nearby trees and plants?
   
   ✪ Top tip: If you don’t have green space nearby, hunt for rice, seeds or dried beans in your kitchen cupboards!

2. Explore each seed together.
   Ask your child:
   What colour is it?
   How does it feel?
   What shape is it?
   Is it heavy or light?
   
   ! Remember: Never eat seeds that you find outside!

3. Help your child to fill a container with seeds. You could mix the seeds together or fill different containers with different seeds.
   
   Do different seeds make different sounds?
   Put the lid on tightly and have fun making music with your handmade shaker!

Taking it forwards:

Introduce the idea that seeds disperse in different ways. With your child, explore how one of the seeds you’ve collected moves. Does it float or fall heavily to the ground? Try moving like a seed together.