

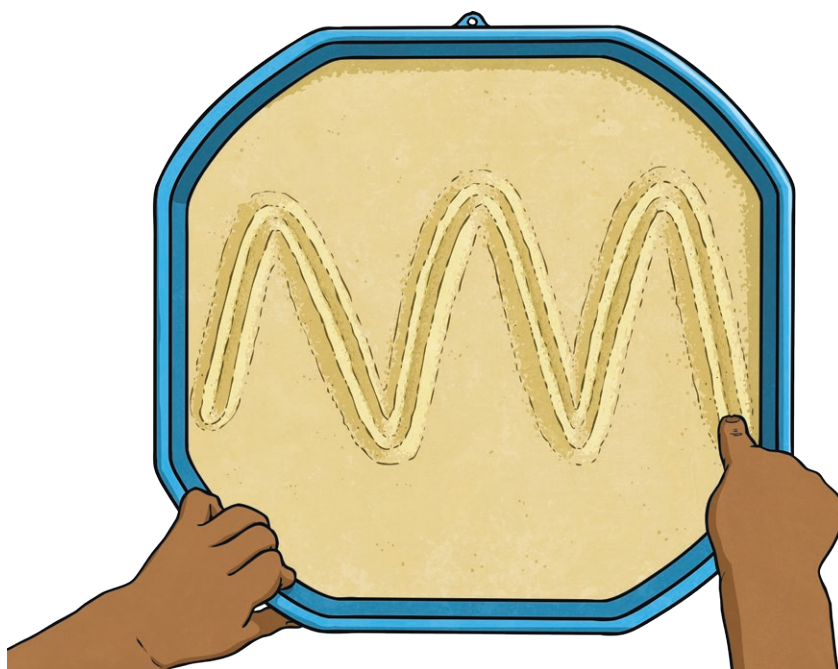
You will need:

- Large sand tray or large activity tray (you could equally use small-sized individual sand trays or plates if preferred).
- Play sand (plain or coloured) – about 2cm in depth – sand needs to be deep enough for children to observe marks and patterns.
- Variety of mark-making tools – paintbrushes, pencils, glue spreaders, natural materials, small toys, toy vehicles, pegs, lollipop sticks, tweezers, pipe cleaners, plastic spoons, cotton buds, chopsticks, etc.

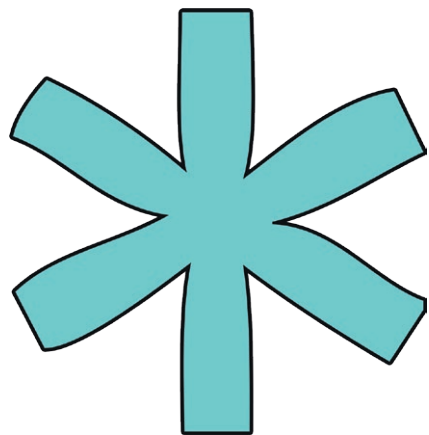
Sand is an excellent sensory material for children to develop their fine motor skills whilst developing their sense of touch through feeling and manipulating objects. Sand tray activities also develop children's hand-eye coordination skills, creativity and imagination!

Ideas for Sand Tray Activities

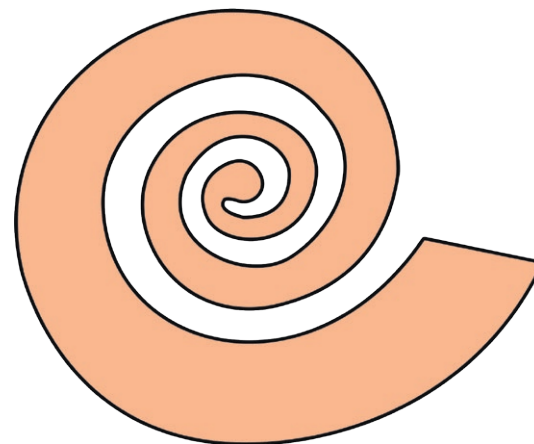
1. **Hands and Fingers:** Encourage children to explore the sand using their hands and fingers. Can they trace patterns, make marks, form shapes, letters, numerals or even simple words? Can children sift the sand through their hands or transfer it from right to left in the tray?
2. **Nature Trail:** Provide children with natural materials to make meaningful marks, make patterns, scoop the sand or hide objects such as pebbles, pine cones, twigs, shells and flower stems.
3. **Small World Fun:** Provide children with a variety of small world toys to make tracks, paths and patterns in the sand. Allow children time to explore the sand using their own creativity and imagination.
4. **Perfect Patterns:** Use the Sand Tray Patterns Activity Cards for children to copy patterns using their fingers and mark-making tools in the sand.
5. **Sand Shapes:** Use the Sand Tray Shapes Activity Cards for children to produce their own 2D shapes using their fingers and mark-making tools in the sand.



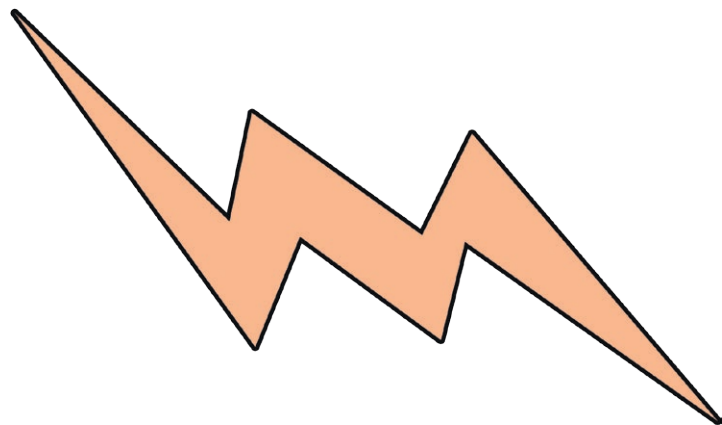
Can you make this pattern?



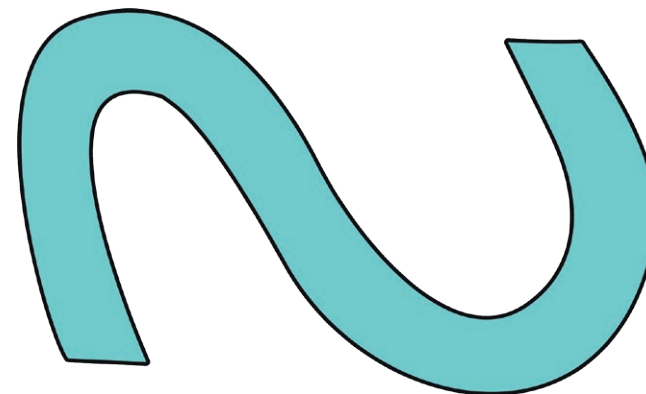
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Can you make this pattern?



Can you make this pattern?



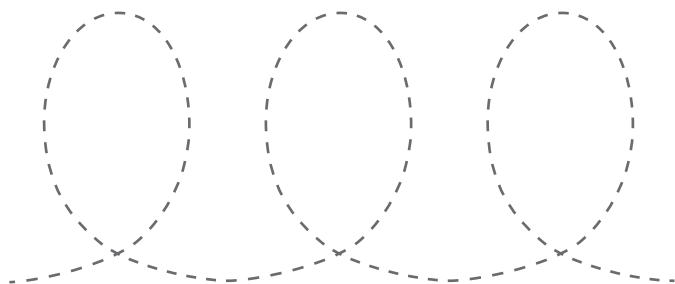
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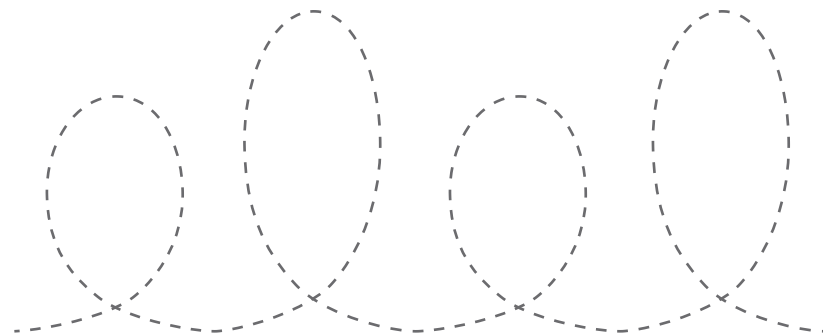
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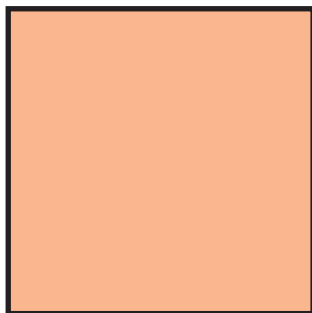
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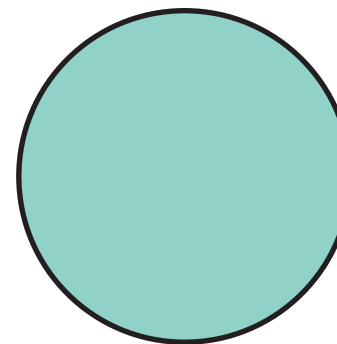
Can you make this pattern?



Can you make this shape?



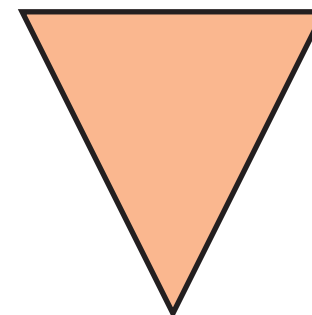
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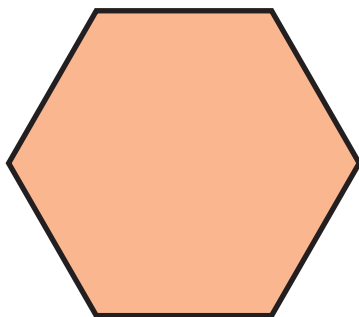
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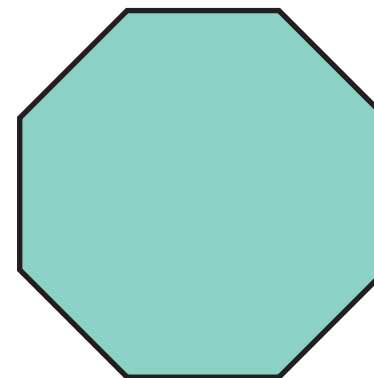
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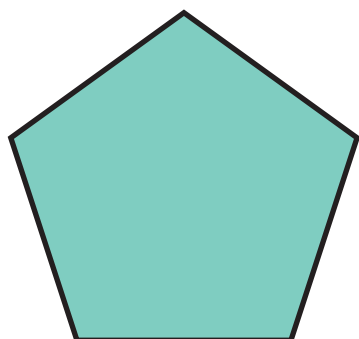
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Can you make this shape?



Can you make this shape?



Can you make this shape?

