



## **Approaches to Learning** **Activity for 42 to 48 Months**

### **The Nose Knows**

*This activity provides experience in recognizing and solving problems through active exploration, including trial and error and interactions with peers and adults.*

#### **Materials:**

- Various strong scents (extracts, pickle juice, spices, liquid flavorings, peanut butter)
- Small containers with lids (film canisters or other clear plastic jars)
- Permanent marker or stickers
- Cotton balls

#### **What to do:**

1. Soak or smear a cotton ball in the selected scent. Place it inside the canister and close the lid. Mark the bottom of each canister with a number or color-coded sticker.
2. Have the child sniff each container and guess what the scent is inside.
3. Reveal the actual scents.
4. Create sheets of paper with pictures of the scents. Ask the child to place the correct container on each picture.
5. Line up the canisters and tell the child she is going to be a "nose detective" and that the clues are inside each container.
6. Set out additional canisters and ask the child to match the scents using only her nose.

