Pour the water beads.

Pouring back and forth into different sized containers is a great activity to learn about volume. Which container holds the most beads? Which container holds the fewest beads?

Count the water beads.

Practice simple math with water beads. Count five water beads of any color. How many do you have left if you take away two? What if you add two instead? Can you count ten beads of each color?

Sort the water beads.

Sorting water beads helps with color recognition and early math skills. Try putting beads of one color into a cup. Can you make a pattern with the water beads?

Scoop the water beads.

Scooping with a spoon is a great way to practice fine motor skills. See if you can scoop only one at a time. Now try to scoop two or three. Scoop only beads of a certain color.

Relax with water beads.

Water beads are soothing to touch, look at, or even listen to, and can help to calm an upset child. Feel the beads with your hands. Swish them around in a clear bag. Gently shake them in a cup and listen to the sounds they make.

Explore with water beads.

Take a look in the bottles. Each of the bottles has water beads of different sizes. Some have been soaking in water all night. Some have been soaking for only a little while. Some haven’t soaked in water at all. As time passes, the beads in water will grow to their full size. If they are removed from water, they will shrink back to their original size. What else can grow? Do you grow?