



DIY MONTESSORI BELL RATTLE

ASSEMBLY GUIDE


Montessori
- EDITED

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The Montessori Bell Rattle

3 months+



When you observe that your baby is interested in batting and grabbing, you can introduce the Montessori Bell Rattle. This little wooden ‘toy’, although simple looking, has a profound effect on babies’ development. Its smooth, straight and easy-to-take handle is just the right size for those tiny little hands. The two bells at the ends make a lovely little sound.

This bell rattle is the first ‘toy’ we offer to the baby. It has a double function: it works on the tactile sense and controlling movements by helping to strengthen the hand muscles. This way it trains the hands to grab and to be able to hold an object without dropping it. Later, it will motivate your little one to practice passing from one hand to another.

The bells also develop the auditory sense. The soft, gentle sounds they give each time they are shaken will capture your baby’s attention, who will follow them with their eyes. They will soon understand the relationship between cause and effect, e.g. movement and sound, and will try to repeat it again and again.

This rattle is a great sensorial learning material which teaches babies how movements can influence sound. Please note, that it is NOT suitable for mouthing. If this happens, gently take it away from him/her. When the mouthing stage is prominent, put the rattle away for a while. When this phase is finished, you can use it again as a musical instrument.

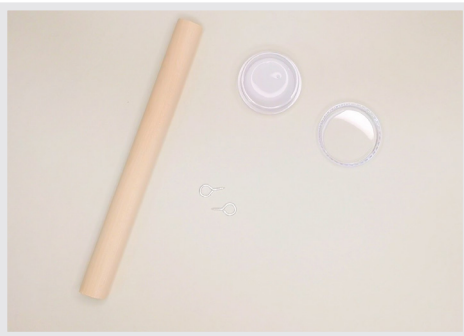
Necessary resources



- ✓ 10 cm x 12 mm dowel
- ✓ 2x 25 mm diameter metal bells
- ✓ 2x 13.5mm x 6.5mm silver hook eyes
- ✓ Wood glue (SuperTite)

Extra:

- ✓ pliers



Find the dowel, the wood glue and the hook eyes.

Push one of the hook eyes in the wood at the end of the dowel, in the middle, twisting it at the same time. You might have to push quite hard. Twist it in only halfway, then take it out. Dip it in the wood glue, then twist it in all the way, as deep as it goes. Use pliers, if needed.



With the pliers, open up the eye hook, about halfway, so that you can comfortably slide the bell on.

There's a spare hook eye, should you need a replacement.



Slide one of the bells on the hook eye, then, using your pliers, close the hook again. Make sure you fully close the eye hook again so that the bell can't slide off.



Repeat the process with the other bell.



The Montessori Bell Rattle is ready!



Present the Montessori Bell Rattle to your baby when s/he's in an active, well-rested, alert state and ready to work. Shake the bell until your baby's eyes find and watch the Rattle. Shake it again to make sure that s/he understands that that's where the sound is coming from.

The next day, or whenever you feel like your little one is ready for the next step, show it again. Then, while your baby is watching, move it to one side of your baby's head. Make sure s/he knows where the sound is coming from. Then slowly move it to the other side.

The next step is when you move the bell out of your little one's sight. Move it to one side of the head and wait until your baby turns and sees it. Move it to the other side. Above his/her head.

I have also seen it presented by not being presented. Meaning, you just hand it to your baby and see what s/he's going to do with it. This allows him/her to explore it at his/her pleasure. If you see that s/he gets agitated, it's probably because s/he finds it too overwhelming. It might also happen that he has already learnt how to grab it and hold it but hasn't yet figured out how to let it go. In this case, do the steps in the first paragraph.

Always check the material before giving it to your baby. Smooth it over with your hand to make sure everything is safe and blunt. Pull on the bells to check that they are securely attached. Always supervise when in use.

This product is...

Sustainable



The resources are made of natural products, wherever it is possible or practical.

Recycled



Most of the packaging you can find in this product is made from recycled (plastic packaging) or biodegradable material (box, brown packaging ribbon).

Earth-Conscious



When your baby's interests change and they 'grow out' of the Bell Rattle, please keep them safe for your next baby, or give them away to another expecting mum.