Taste and Smell

Sniff Test

Using empty film containers or other plastic containers with tight fitting lids, fill with a cotton ball containing various substances such as cinnamon, cloves, onion, lemon, mint, garlic, dryer sheet, after shave, baby lotion, and so forth. Take the lid off the container and ask your child to smell the can. Ask her to tell you if she likes the smell or not. Does the smell remind you of anything? Do you know the names of the substances? Have you smelled it before?

Variation: Use squirt bottles that syrup or dish detergent came in. Put the cotton balls in the bottles and secure the tops. Pull the stopper up, and squeeze the bottle sending a whiff into the air. Let your child decide if she likes the smells or not, just like you did with the other activity.

(Twenty-four to Thirty-six Months)