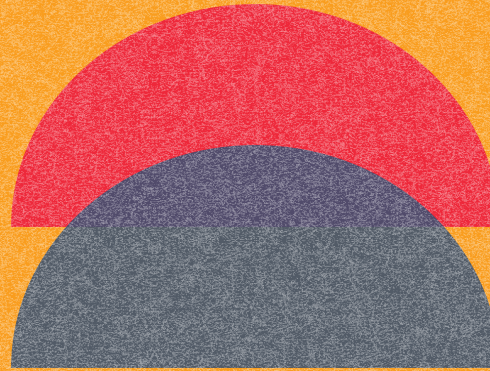


THE VISITATION BAG

is a tool used by CASA Volunteers, available at the local CASA program, to ensure that a happy, healthy, productive and positive visitation occurs at every family visit. All items in the bag are used to help promote and strengthen the attachment between child and parent.

Inside are suggested items that may be included in the visitation bag.



Visitation Bags are intended to be an optional resource and tool to assist a parent to interact meaningfully, positively and confidently with their infant or small child. The items in the Visitation Bags may differ based on location, child and age range. Parents are encouraged to provide any of their own items to use during their visit time, and to bring toys, books and/or food that are specific to their family interests, culture or background.



TEXASCASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN



HOW TO USE THE Visitation Bag

*For Infants and
Young Children*

BALLS

Create a fun and stimulating environment. They also encourage play and can be used to assess developmental motor skills.

BLANKET

Encourage a parent to engage in playful interaction with their child by placing the blanket on the floor and creating a space for parent and child to be at eye level with each other. Blankets are also great for tummy time play and for cuddling.

BOOKS

Reading to a child is essential to attachment and bonding. It allows for touch, comfort and one-on-one time. If a parent cannot read, they can be encouraged to tell a story from the pictures.

BUBBLES

Encourage play and connection. Children may try to reach for and touch the bubbles, helping to develop motor skills and eye-hand coordination. Bubbles trigger the use of sense of sight, touch and possibly sound.

BUILDING BLOCKS

Help children learn spatial awareness. Parents can use the blocks to help children with counting and learning shapes/colors. CASA volunteers can help set up stations with building blocks and other items in the visitation bag so children and parents can move to different activities throughout the visit when needed.

COUNTING BEARS

A great way to introduce math skills to children when they are developmentally ready.

CRAYONS

Coloring helps developmental skills, hand strength, coordination and creativity. It's also an opportunity for parents to teach their children colors.

LOTION

Many parents miss the opportunity to bathe their child, which provides a child with a sense of security, touch and connection. Allergies and skin sensitivities should be considered.

MATCHING CARDS

Help children with visual memory and pattern recognition. This is an opportunity for parents to teach their children and bond with them through play.

MUSICAL TOYS

Create fun sounds that stimulate children and promote sensory awareness and thinking skills. They can also promote communication for children with their parents.

WOODEN PUZZLES

Help develop memory skills for children, teach shapes/patterns and encourage problem-solving. Parents can engage with their children by taking turns to complete the puzzle.

OTHER ITEMS TO CONSIDER INCLUDING:

Diapers and Wipes – All babies need diaper changes. This enables a parent to meet the immediate need of their child.

Engine Plates – A great opportunity for parents and children to check in on their feelings at the beginning, throughout and end of the visit and their time together. This teaches the parent and child self-regulation.

TBRI®/Sensory Toys – Help to build nerve connections in the brain, encourage the development of motor skills and to support language development, 'scientific thinking' and problem-solving.

Snacks – Sharing a snack or a meal provides an opportunity for verbal communication, story-telling, eye contact and quiet time. Parents are encouraged to bring healthy snacks.

