

## *Sense-ability Group Learning Activities for Young Children*

**These activities can be used in the “Learning Stage” of the *Sense-ability Group*. Other stages of the *Sense-ability Group* need minimal adaptation for the elementary or preschool setting.**

**Name Game** - rolling therapy ball to each person (children can tall kneel or sit) First go around the group and ask everyone to say their name. The leader starts with, “My name is Mrs. Moore - I’m going to roll the ball to Barry.” Barry says, “My name is Barry, I am going to roll the ball to Sara.” Encourage children to point to the person and ask his or her name before beginning if they cannot remember the name. The game can also be played using a parachute.



Participants in the Pelham NH Workshop playing the name game.

**Follow the Leader with a Streamer** - leader moves streamer in various ways and children follow the motion or pattern (this can be used to teach the words up, down, side to side, etc.)

**Rhythm Game** - Plastic Eggs filled with rice or beans can be used for shakers - leader shakes egg in different patterns of beats and children repeat pattern. Drums or other musical instruments can be used.

**Learning Body parts** - Use *Head Shoulders Knees and Toes* song or other songs mentioning body parts

**Let’s Pretend Household Chores** - Leader calls out a chore and children pretend to do different household chores like sweeping or vacuuming; children can take turns being first to show how to do the activity.

**Let’s Pretend Sports** - Leader calls out a sport and the children pretend to do the sport; children can take turns being first to show how to do the activity. (Turn it into a charade game. Whisper a sport to each child and have them act it out. See if others can guess.)

**Bubble Count** - Partner children. Partners take turns blowing bubbles, the other partner tries to pop them. Make it more difficult by counting the pops.

**Color Game** - Use beanbags of primary colors or cut circles of construction paper with primary colors; give each child a color. Who has yellow? Touch it to something in the room that is yellow. Who has blue? Continue until everyone has a chance to play.

**Emotions Game** - Use a pre-made set of simple emotions cards. Place the cards on the floor. Children take turns throwing a Koosh ball onto one of the cards. The leader asks, “How do you think that person feels.? Have you ever felt like that? If you were sad how could we help?”