Catching Fish

You will need

A water tray containing cones; gravel; shells; plastic fish and other sea creatures; coins and other small objects; netting of different gauges — fishing net, fruit and vegetable netting, muslin; quoits, a needle and strong thread; sieves; strainers and colanders.

What you do

Using a variety of netting, fold it over each of the quoits and sew it in place to make to make a fishing net. Leave one without netting.

Put the strainers and nets in the water tray and encourage the children to use them to "catch fish". They will find that some objects go through the larger holes only and that the finer netting will catch everything. Introduce the quoit without any netting. Ask the children to guess how many of the objects will pass through the quoit. How can they catch these objects? Which net do they think is the best for catching fish?

Invite the children to design and make "fish" from foil, plastic, paper, polystyrene and other materials. Which materials are the best for making fish?