

ITERS-3 Non-Mobile Infant Basket Guide

This guide supports teachers in preparing individualized play baskets for non-mobile infants, aligned with ITERS-3 indicators for Fine Motor and Interaction. Each basket should include a variety of sensory, fine motor, and social-emotional materials to promote exploration and development.

Non-mobile infants must have items brought to them. Creating individualized baskets give caregivers a convenient way to ensure all infants have an opportunity to experience many types of items when they are up and ready to play.

Basket Contents Checklist

Each child's basket should include a mix of the following items:

Soft and Comforting Items

- Soft doll (represents comfort and emotional connection)
- Soft cloth or tag blanket with different textures

Auditory and Movement Items

- Rattle or small shaker toy
- Simple sound toy (gentle chime or squeeze toy)

Fine Motor and Manipulative Items

- Soft block (cloth or foam)
- Plastic linking rings or teether (for grasping and mouthing)

Visual and Cognitive Items

- Cloth or board book (with simple images or faces)
- Small infant-safe mirror or high-contrast picture card

Optional Additions

- Soft ball (cloth or foam)
- Family photo card or small photo album with familiar faces

Implementation Tips

- Rotate 1–2 items weekly to maintain novelty and engagement.
- Ensure all materials are infant-safe and easy to sanitize.
- Label each basket with the child's name.
- Offer one item at a time, based on the infant's cues and interest.
- Store baskets within easy reach for teachers to present items frequently throughout the day.

***Remember, the key to successful infant play is the quality of the interaction between the caregiver and the child. Teachers must take the basket to the child AND interact with the baby while presenting the materials.**