

# Abilitations

## Noodle Pit Product Guide

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### Introduction

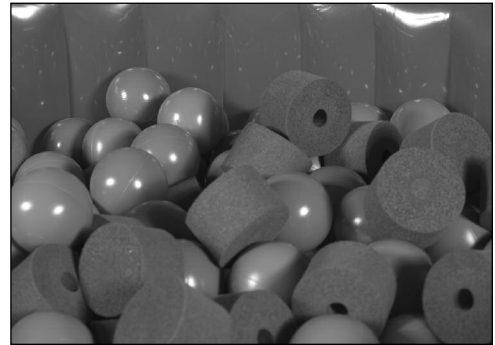
Welcome to the Noodle Pit, the coolest, noodliest ball pit yet! This *Abilitations Creations* was sent our way by a parent of a child with special needs. It combines the appeal of a ball pit with the added benefit of 3" x 2" closed-cell foam pieces for sensational tactile input. The Inflatable Pit is the perfect sensory tool for creating good spatial boundaries that promote organization, while the balls and noodles make the perfect floating sea for a sensory experience like no other. Here are a few ideas to get started with your Noodle Pit.

### Product Use

- The Noodle Pit is a great sensory “time-in” tool as a quiet space for regrouping. Many children with sensory processing disorders get over stimulated easily in a busy environment. Spending intervals of time “chilling out” in the Noodle Pit can be a great way to prevent sensory meltdowns later. As noted above, the spatial boundaries provided by the pool parameters, combined with the ball and foam mixture, is very calming and organizing. Lower the lights and play soft music for a calming cocoon-like experience. Use a noodle pit in the corner of a classroom, or in a child’s bedroom, as part of a good sensory diet.
- The Noodle Pit also serves as a great jump-in pool. From suspended equipment such as a zip line or trapeze in your clinic, or from a large wedge or short stool, have the kids take turns plopping into the pit. They will love the feel of landing in the sea of balls and oodles of noodles. Have plenty of “crash” materials around the pool (such as mats, blankets or pillows) as the parameters of the noodle pit are smaller than conventional ball pits.
- The Noodle Pit is perfect for working on simple color and shape discrimination skills. Ask the child to show you or give you a noodle (the foam pieces), a blue ball, or a green ball.
- For additional perception skills, hide some larger objects among the sea of ball and foam pieces. Use common play objects such as large blocks, toy trucks, tennis balls, stuffed animals, and/or other objects that are familiar. See if the child can use one or both hands to dig around the balls and noodles to find the objects, or name a specific object the child is to locate. Can the child do it with eyes closed? If this is too difficult, then use vision and touch to help locate the objects.
- Let the kids use their imagination to make the Noodle Pit into a boat, a fort, or other place. From the safety of their space, they can throw the balls at a specific target (use paper or floor pads as “fish” or use any target board or portable basketball hoop). See how many targets they can hit with balls during a set time interval. Make sure they help with cleaning up the stray balls when the game is done!

## Care & Safety

The Noodle Pit measures 21"H x 46"D and is made of inflatable PVC plastic that is latex free. Inflate with a portable or electric pump. The pit includes 250 blue Ball Pit Balls, 250 green Ball Pit Balls and 96 purple Chopped Noodles (closed-cell foam pieces). To clean, place the ball and noodles in a mesh bag (not included) and hose or wash off with a bleach/water mixture (one part bleach to 10 parts water) or clean with a germicidal wipe. Air dry. The Noodle Pit is not recommended for children under the age of two years or those under 36" tall. Children should be supervised when in the Noodle Pit.



## Recommended Products

Try these other great Abilitations products along with your Noodle Pit:

- Mozart Effect CD Series (Item #122118), to create a "time-in" area.
- Sportime Super Expand-O-Mats (assorted sizes and thickness), for safety around a "jump-in" pool.
- Sportime Bean Bag Zoo (assorted types), for activities that involve finding/identifying objects.
- Hang a Hoop (Item # 122765), as a target at which to throw balls.
- 10" Utility Spot Markers (Item # 167381), as targets at which to throw balls.

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