Mystery Bag Challenge

**Materials:** small bag/box that is not clear, small objects of various materials and textures

**Background Information:** Humans have five main senses: hearing, sight, smelling, taste, and touch. Scientists use their senses to make observations, collect data, and discover things about the world around them. We are all scientists because we use our senses to learn about the world.

**STEM Career Connection:** A materials scientist is someone who studies the properties of solid materials. When more is known about the properties of materials, the best materials can be chosen or designed to be used for certain purposes.


**Challenge:**
1. Have Person 1 put a small object in a bag/box. Do not let Person 2 see the object.
2. Have Person 2 reach in the bag and use their sense of touch to feel the object.
3. Have Person 2 describe the object using words.
   a. What texture is the object, smooth, bumpy, rough, etc.?
   b. What shape is the object, round, rectangular, square, oval, etc.?
   c. How else does the object feel, hard, soft, squishy, etc.?
4. Have Person 2 make a prediction (guess) about what the mystery object is.
5. Look in the bag to see if the prediction is correct.
6. What other words can be used to describe the object?
7. Take turns putting different objects in the bag, describing, and predicting. Be sure to use objects that are both man-made and found in nature.