

16. Music shakers

Reason for activity

To explore sound and experiment with different objects and materials to make different types of sound.

What you will need

Some of: buttons, aquarium gravel, dried pasta, dried beans, popcorn kernels, lentils, rice

- cups with lids
- empty bottle or container with lid.

Time needed

15+ mins



What to do

After deciding on what container to use, pour a variety of different materials you've gathered earlier into the container, and put the lid on and make sure it is properly sealed. Shake it and add / take away materials until you find the sound you like. When you are happy with the sound, decorate the containers with stickers, ribbons and other fun items, and make sure the lid is very secure! Give your child a chance to personalise it. Enjoy shaking!

Keep a dustpan and brush handy and keep an eye on your child to make sure they don't put fillers in their mouth.

17. Original toys

Reason for activity

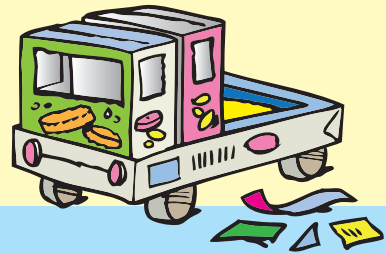
To encourage use of the imagination and to develop skills in making things using a variety of materials.

What you will need

Card and paper, pencil, crayons or fibre pens, scissors, glue or sellotape. 'Junk' items like empty cereal boxes, yoghurt pots, cardboard tubes from toilet rolls, etc.

Time needed

This will depend upon what you choose to do and whether you are making your toy over a period of time.



What to do

Imagine you have to make your own toy. Choose one you'd like to make and draw a picture of it with the help of your child. Make the toy using any 'junk' materials you can find.

Talk about the best materials to use.