

Home Activity Cards



Loose Parts

Solving problems using imagination and creativity is great brain exercise. Go on a treasure hunt for items that can be repurposed and used in different ways. Create something and take pictures/video. #grow2gether

It is typical for children to incorporate found materials, like rocks or sticks, into their play. The idea of loose parts stems from and encourages that habit. [Loose parts](#) are “alluring, beautiful, found objects and materials that children can move, manipulate, control, and change while they play.”

Grown-ups can provide a variety of items like lids, smooth rocks, corks, ribbon, buttons, sticks, tubes, and shells and encourage children to build or create with them. Keep in mind that the parts are loose and meant to stay loose, so there is no need for tape or glue.

As they manipulate the materials, your child is able to experiment with gravity, weight, and balance. They practice the skills of focus, perseverance, and problem-solving. They strengthen their imagination and creativity as they think of new ways to use the same materials.

Learning on the Go!

- Consider keeping a small bag or container in the car. Keep an eye out for interesting objects while you and your child are out and about.
- A “travel set” of loose objects is an open-ended and simple way to keep your child busy while you wait. For example, at a restaurant or in the grocery store.



Share with us! We would love to see how you did this activity. Use the hashtags #grow2gether so we can find it!



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