

Cardboard Box Play



Cardboard boxes would have to be my most favourite 'toy' for children to play with as they are an open-ended material. They inspire creativity and imagination as children transform and reinvent them into something else. It could be exploring imaginary places such as turning the box into an imaginary item such as a pirate ship or castle, the ideas are endless.

Today's activity that I am sharing with you is another way you can play with a cardboard box using items such as stickers, stamps and writing implements to play and create with in an unstructured way.

- To set up this invitation to play you will need a box, stickers (sticker dots), stamps and colouring/writing implements such as textas, crayons or pencils.
- These items are only an example, you can provide several other creative materials such as paint, glue, paper cut-outs, fabric, dot markers, washi-tape and so much more!
- To get access to a large cardboard box, you can visit many retail stores as they are generally more than happy for you to take a box or two for home or the classroom.
- Playing creatively with cardboard boxes is great for multi-age groups of children.
- Drawing on cardboard boxes is a motivating way to get reluctant writers/drawers involved.
- Discuss with your child/children about what they would like to make?
- Discuss with you child/children what they are doing? How are you going to play with the box after you have finished creating?
- Add other items as your child's imagination and creativity develops as they create using the box. For example, your child wants to turn the box into a ship and would like to add a flag.

Primary Colour mixing:

Rice and Ice Sensory Activity is a fun activity that provides an opportunity to play with rhyming words, explore scientific concepts and learn about primary colour mixing with all the benefits of sensory play.

To begin this activity we read the story [Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni](#) which is a perfect fit for mixing primary colours.

Rice and Ice Sensory activity is a great way to continue the learning in a multi-sensory way.

Children are able to watch the colour of the rice change as the blue and yellow ice begin to melt and combine to create a secondary colour, green.

You will need

- the story [Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni](#), (if not just talk to your child about colours they see)
- two ice cube tray,
- yellow and blue food colouring, (can use other colours, red and yellow etc)
- water,
- large tub
- and 1 cup of dry uncooked rice.
- Talk about the rhyming words rice and ice: can you think of another word that rhymes with rice and ice? Words such as mice, twice, vice, nice and so on. You may like to try and write these words in the wet rice on the tray.
- Talk about the two different coloured ice blocks and make predictions about what will happen. Make connections with what is happening in the sensory tub and the story Little Blue and Little Yellow.
- Sort the coloured ice into groups according to colour.
- Line all the ice blocks up around the outside of the tray. Try to build and stack with the ice blocks.



Key questions: Why is water changing colour? What is happening to the rice? What colours can you see? I can see... Why is the ice getting smaller?