

## Box Construction

A box is never just a box, it a source for many happy hours of creative play!

Did you know that box construction provides a myriad of learning possibilities for:

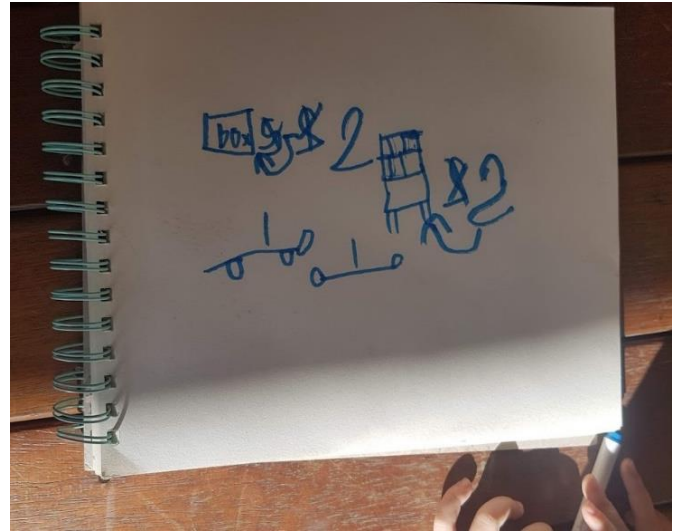
- Imagining and pretending as children use boxes to build cubbies, caves, a dragons den, spacecraft, cars, buses, trains and planes, houses, offices, shops, a knights shield, a robot, a suit of armour, a dolls bed, a, puppet theatre, a roadway (flattened box), a boat, a car ramp, a stage just to name a few.
- exploring mathematical and scientific thinking as children combine boxes and other materials to create 3D structures
- discovering that boxes can be stacked but that a big box won't balance for long if placed on a smaller one
- solving problems, 'When does glue work best?' 'How can I join two boxes together, will I need sticky tape or masking tape?' 'Do I need something stronger like metal clips, string, wool, a stapler or elastic bands?'
- making discoveries, for example, 'How tall can I make this building before it falls?' 'If I join some boxes together I can make a train for my toys'
- planning and making decisions about what to build, which materials are needed, and how the creation should look when finished
- co-operating with others and negotiating roles and responsibilities Dealing with challenges and coping when things don't go according to plan

### The first train



## Planning and design

The plan for the second train shows the use of a skateboard to make it moveable and the addition of a rope to pull the train forwards and backwards. This shows a progression in the children's thinking over time.



**The second train moves back and forth as shown in the plans**

