

Construction Sensory Bin



Transportation

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Toddler
1.5 - 2.5 years

This is a fun activity for the kiddos to get their hands “dirty” without making too much of a mess. Toddlers will use lots of imagination and creativity as they take a birds-eye view of their very own play construction site using items you already have lying around. Be prepared for lots of questions!

Learning Outcomes

Domain:

Physical

Skills:

Senses

Indicator:

Coordinating sense with motor skills in increasingly complex ways



Materials

- Bin (medium size)
- Rice or dry noodles (e.g. macaroni)
- Small plastic construction trucks
- Blocks
- Rocks and sticks (optional)



Instructions

Step 1: If you are able to, have your toddler accompany you while you gather all your sensory bin materials.

Step 2: Fill a medium-sized bin halfway with your “dirt” (rice or noodles).

Step 3: Place small construction trucks in the “dirt” along with some blocks, rocks and sticks if you have them available.

Step 4: While the glue is drying, take the second yogurt cup and cut a large square the width of the boat if possible. On one side, cut two slits approximately one inch apart, going halfway down the square.

Step 5: Let your kiddo explore the construction site through open-ended play.



Age Adjustments

For preschoolers: Let those older children really build structure in this activity and be independent. Ask them what they should put in their bin and let them create it through the questions you ask. Encourage them to use blocks to construct houses or other structures.

For younger toddlers: Guide your kiddo with questions and help them think about their answers as you have them create the sensory bin. Basic questions go a long way!



Playful Questions

- What do construction trucks do?
- What noise do they make?
- What is your favorite construction truck?
- Why do you think construction trucks are big?
- Where do we find construction trucks?