

# Toy Creation Guide



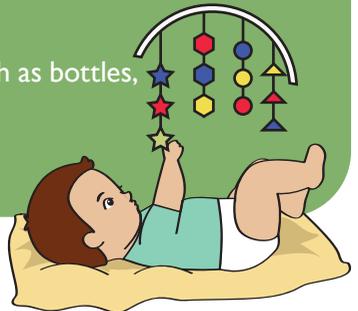
# Hanging Mobile

Inspiring Baby with Colours  
and Shapes  
(Age: 0-6 months)



## Instructions

- Draw various shapes on the paper. (For instance, a circle shape on red paper, a triangle shape on blue paper, a square shape on yellow paper, a rectangle shape on green paper, and maybe a diamond shape on orange paper.)
- Cut each shape out, and then cut a small hole on the top of each design.
- Tie a string or brightly coloured ribbon through the hole, and tie the figures by their string on a clothes hanger or a smooth stick. Hang it firmly above the baby's bed or play area, so s/he can watch them move.
- Alternatively, hang safe household objects, such as bottles, spoons, pegs, from the stick or clothes hanger.



# Box Blocks

(Ages: 6 month -2 years)

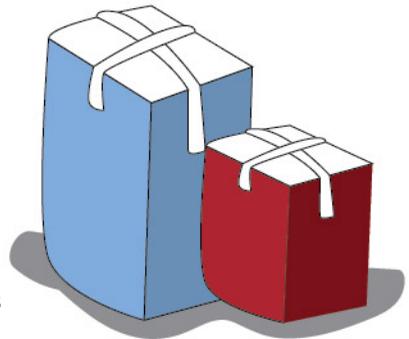


## Preparation:

Collect several empty milk and juice containers, or other similar, paperproducts. Open the tops and make sure they are cleaned out.

## Instructions

- Cut the edges of the containers and fill in with crumpled newspaper.
- Tape the ends of the box securely.
- Decorate your boxes by coloring them, drawing pictures on them, or even wrapping them in colored, construction paper. Show baby how to stack the boxes as building blocks when done.



# Rattle

Shaking It Up

(Age: 6 months-2 years)



## Instructions

- Clean the plastic bottle and put some pebbles/beans and/or seeds inside (make sure your bottle has a lid so your baby does not have access to the materials inside).
- Seal the bottle well. Decorate the bottle with brightly, coloured paper and/or paint.

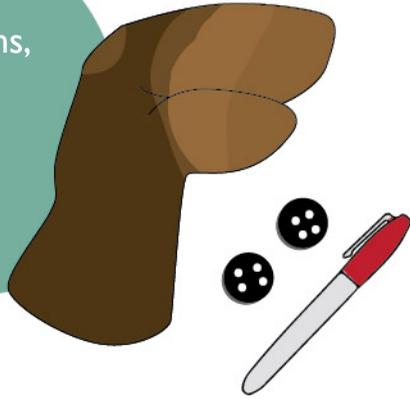


# Puppet Play

(Ages: 1-6 years)

## Preparation:

A big clean sock, buttons, needle and thread and coloured markers (preferably red for the mouth).



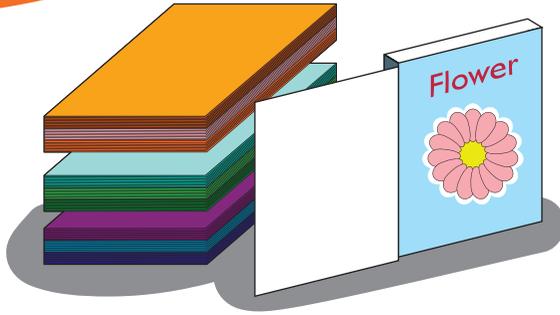
## Instructions

- Put your hand in the sock first to see where to place the buttons and then sew 2 buttons on the sock for eyes.
- Draw the mouth and decorate as desired.
- Put your hand inside the puppet to play with your child.
- Alternate Materials: If socks are not available you can use small, brown paper bags, and draw the eyes and mouth on the bag with the markers.



# Picture Book

(Age: 0-6 years)



## Instructions

- Cut out pictures, shapes and colours from old magazines, newspapers, or draw your own. Glue/tape them in an empty notebook, or on blank note cards, and make pages for your book, then staple or glue the pages together.
- Start with pictures of things that the baby knows, like a bottle or a sock. Later you can make picture books of animals, or other interesting things, and add words. Page through the book with the child. Name the different animals, or make the animal sounds. For example, when you see a pig you can say “oink, oink”
- For older children you can include a story that you know well, or make up a story together. The text should be simple and repetitive. It could be a simple song, rhyme or story familiar to the children.



# Play Dough

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Materials:

- 2 cups flour (1/4 kg)
- 1/2 cup fine salt
- 2 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1- 1 1/2 cup warm water
- (1cup=235ml / 1 Aqua cup)
- Liquid Food Coloring
- 1 Mixing bowl + 1 Stirring Spoon
- Ziploc bag/Tupper ware/
- any air-tight container

## Instructions

- Combine plain flour and salt in a mixing bowl
- Add hot water, food coloring and oil. Mix until ingredients are combined.
- Knead well.
- If consistency is too wet add a little plain flour. If it's too dry add water and oil.
- Store the Play-dough in an air-tight container. Can be stored up to 6 months.

- **Sample of Games:**

Imaginative play/ Color-matching /  
Color-Mixing/ Sorting/ Shape recognition /  
Letter-forming/ Big-Small /  
Long-Short/ Counting



# Math Bag

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Materials:

- A handful of beans - At least two different colors
- A collection of small stones – different shapes and sizes
- 10 each of a number of small objects such as: Paper clips, Straws – multiple colors, Tooth picks, Water bottle-caps, small sticks, Clothes Pegs
- Create or find a small bag or basket to hold materials. Add the suggested materials or other small items that you have available.

# Math Activities

(Ages: 3-6 years)

**\* THE BELOW ACTIVITIES ARE EXAMPLES FOCUSING ON THE NUMBER 6.  
ALL ACTIVITIES CAN BE SUBSTITUTED FOR NUMBERS BETWEEN 1-10.**

## Introduce #6 using these steps:

### Materials: Body Blackboard

- Write #6 on paper. Child writes number 6 in the air and on the back of a family member
- Invite children to clap, stamp, snap, etc 6 times each;

## Designs with “6”

### Materials: Sticks, notebook, pencil

- Take 6 sticks from the math bag and make a design of 6.
- Reproduce the design on a piece of paper and write the number 6.

## Patterns

- Take out 6 each of three objects such as stones, shells, and seeds.
- Make a pattern using the materials.



## Recognizing numerals and order

- Caregiver writes numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 on paper.
- Child takes out number cards 1,2,3,4, 5, 6 and puts them in the correct order
- Caregiver checks if the child have the correct order by pointing to each number and saying it.
- Use small items from your maths bag (shells/caps/ buttons) to show how many each stands for. Place the correct number of objects under each card.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

## Staircase with six

- Select number cards 1 to 6.
- Put these in order.
- Above each number put beans or bottle caps to show the number.
- Form the beans in a way that they form a stair step up to the six.
- Ask children to now form the staircase down the other side using 5-4-3-2-1 beans.

## Addition & Subtraction Trains

- Take out 6 paper clips and hook them together like a train.
- Now make different length trains that add up to six. For example, 4 car train + 2 car train.

## Review Dance

- Child claps forward in a rhythm, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and then snap fingers as they count backward - 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
- Now child slowly rises from their seat counting forward 1-6, and then slowly sit counting backward 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
- Finally, they try to increase the counting speed with claps, snaps, rising and sitting, without losing their balance as they stand and sit.
- The last activity is like a dance. Child stands with a family member, clasp right hands together up in the air and slowly walk in a circle and count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. When they reach 5, they quickly release the hand, turn direction, slap the left hands together and walk and count backward, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. See if they can do this backward and forward until they can do it smoothly without losing a beat.



## Shapes

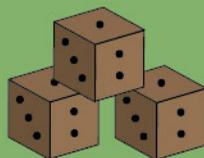
- For numbers that are multiples of 3 child can form different size triangles. For multiples of 4 child can form squares.
- Take out six sticks.
- How many triangles can you make with your six sticks?
- Can you use the sticks to make a big triangle



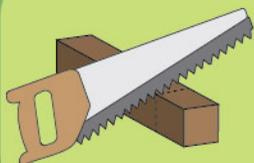
## “6” Counting Race

### Materials: Dice

- Create a starting line and a finish line. Now you are ready for a race.
- Child and other family members line up at the starting line. First player rolls a dice and takes as many jumps forward while counting out loud eg. child rolls 4, they jump forward four times counting ‘1, 2, 3, 4’
- Each family member gets a turn.
- Repeat until someone reaches the finish line.
- First one to reach finish line is the winner.

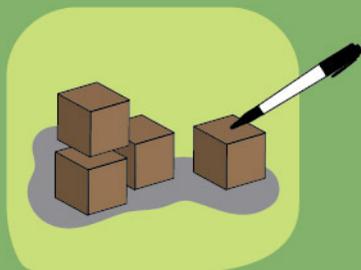


## How to Make Dice:



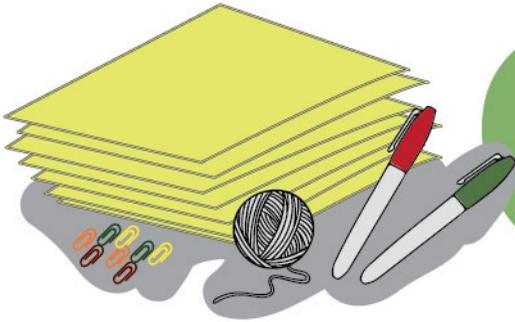
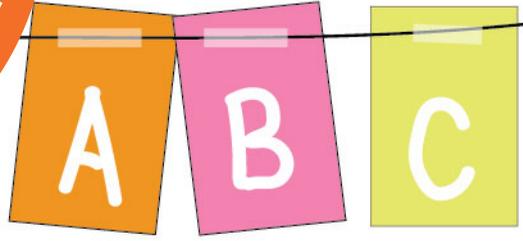
- Take a thick and long strip of wood and cut it into small cubes (about 2 cm square).

- Use a marker to draw a number of dots from one to six on each side. If there are two per child, make one die with dots and one with number symbols.



# Alphabet Flag

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Preparation:

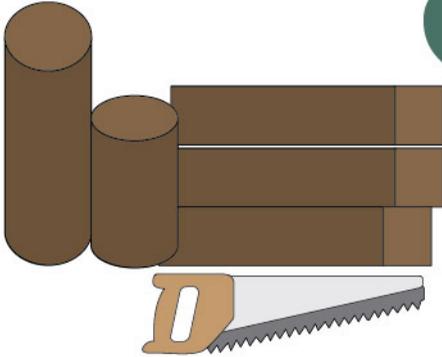
- Rope or string
- A4 pieces of paper cut in half
- Clothes pines, paper clips, short pieces of string, something to secure the letters to the long line
- Markers, colored pencils, or crayons

## Instructions

- On each piece of paper, write one letter of the alphabet, be sure to include both the uppercase letter and the lower case letter on the same paper.
- Be sure to write the letters large enough for children to read from a distance.
- After doing this for the entire alphabet, securely attach your rope or long string at one end of the room and extend it to the other side of the room to securely attach it.
- Be sure to not tie the rope or string too high so that children cannot read it.
- Starting with the beginning of the alphabet, attach the small pieces of paper with the alphabet letters on it to the long rope or string.
- Do this for each letter of the alphabet, ensuring that there is equal space between each piece of paper.

# Geometric Shaped Building Blocks

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Preparation:

- Thick sticks or pieces of wood
- Saw/tools to cut and shape the wood
- Sander/tool to smooth rough wood
- Paint (optional)

## Instructions

- Cut pieces of wood into small geometric shapes – you can make as many as you have wood for.
- Sand or smooth each piece so there are no rough edges.
- Paint each piece using the different colors (optional).
- Store blocks in a bag or box when not in use.



# Wooden Cubes

(Ages: 3-6 years)

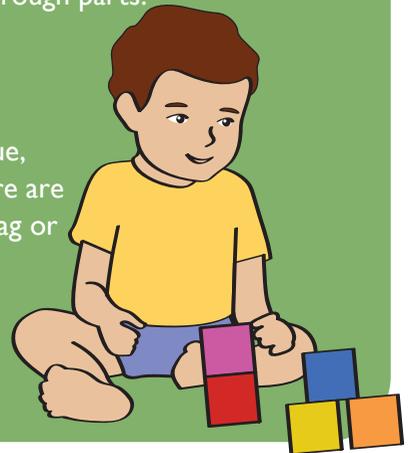


## Preparation:

- Boards of wood, found wood such as legs of tables, old shelving, etc
- Saw/tools to cut and shape the wood
- Sander/tool to smooth rough wood
- Non-toxic paint or markers

## Instructions

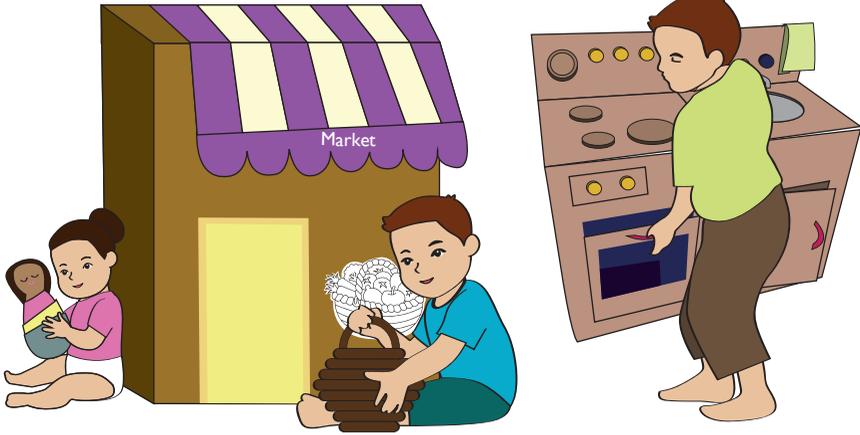
- Measure the pieces of wood into 2.5 square centimeters.
- Cut the wood so that there are 60 pieces in total.
- Sand or smooth the edges so there are no rough parts.
- Divide these 60 pieces into 6 groups of 10 squares each.
- Color each group a different color: red, blue, yellow, green, purple, orange, ensuring there are 10 blocks of each color. Store blocks in a bag or box when not in use.



# Dramatic Play

## Set-Ups

(Ages: 3-6 years)



### Instructions

- Recreate a child sized kitchen using the materials available. Use cardboard boxes to create a table, stove, refrigerator, or other type of large kitchen items.
- Create shelves or cupboards using boxes or bookshelves and place play items in them.
- Draw on the boxes or fabric to add details that make the kitchen seem realistic.

### Instructions

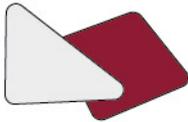
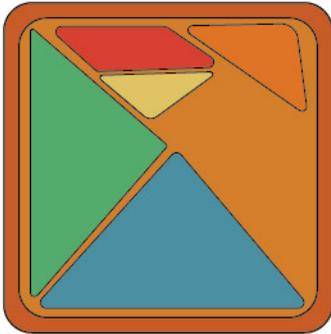
- Recreate a market using the materials available. Draw on the boxes and fabric to create visual details.
- Set up other materials on shelves or on tables as appropriate.

### Instructions

- Provide old clothing, hats or cloth to create dress up costumes. Store all clothes in a large box, separated by type of item (hats in one box, large sheets of fabric in another, etc.)

# Tangram Puzzle

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Preparation:

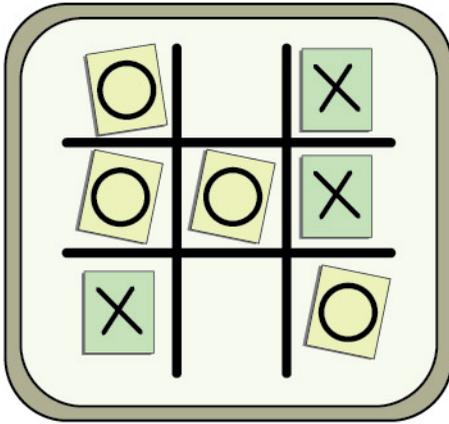
- One big piece of cardboard
- One big white piece of paper
- Cardboard paper
- Paint or markers
- Ruler, grey lead pencil, eraser
- Scissors/cutter
- Sticky tape

## Instructions

- On a piece of paper glued to cardboard, draw and colour one small yellow triangle shape, one medium-sized dark blue triangle shape, one large light blue triangle shape, one medium-sized light green triangle shape, one small-sized red square shape, one small-sized light orange triangle shape and one medium-sized light purple parallelogram shape.
- Neatly apply a layer of sticky tape around the cardboard so it is sturdy and long-lasting.
- Use the scissors/cutter to cut all of the shapes
- Neatly apply a layer of sticky tape around each card so that they are sturdy and long-lasting.
- Pieces can be used to create a puzzle or shapes (animal shapes, house, vehicles etc).
- Place all items in a medium-sized bag.

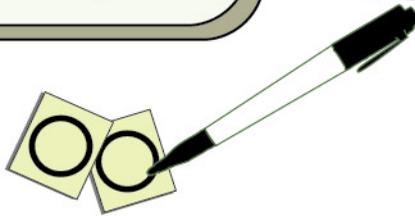
# Tic Tac Toe

(Ages: 3-6 years)



## Preparation:

- 2 Medium sized pieces of cardboard
- Pen/pencil/marker
- Ruler or other straight object
- Scissors

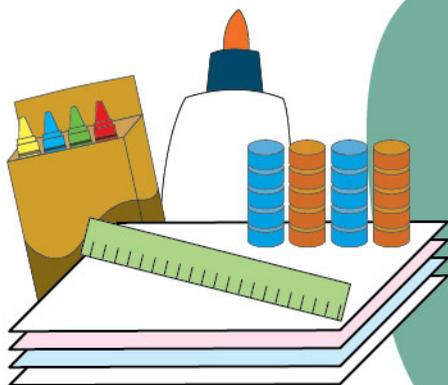


## Instructions

- Take one piece of cardboard and measure and cut it so that it is a medium sized square, approximately 10 cm by 10 cm.
- Using the ruler, draw two vertical lines and two horizontal lines to make a grid with 9 evenly sized boxes
- With the other piece of paper, cut 18 small squares (one square should be able to fit in one of the boxes on the other piece of cardboard).
- On nine of the small squares that were just cut out, draw a big 'X' and on the other nine draw a big 'O'.
- To play, each player (2 players in total) takes it in turns to place their X or O into one of the empty squares in the grid. To win the game get three of your symbols in a line horizontally, vertically or diagonally.

# Color Bingo

(Ages: 3-6 years)

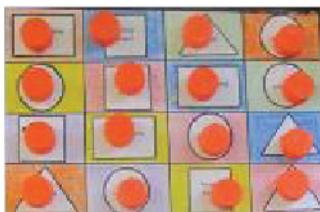
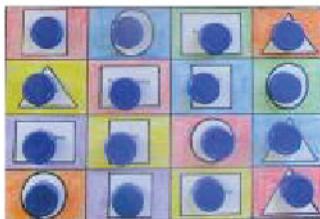


## Preparation:

- Big piece of cardboard
- Two -4 paper sheets
- Cardboard paper sheets
- Markers/crayons/colored pencils
- Sticky tape
- Ruler, grey lead pencil, eraser
- Scissors/cutter
- Glue
- Plastic bottle caps (16 blue and 16 orange)

## Instructions

- Each game board has 16 squares.
- A coloured shape is drawn in each square.
- The two game boards are different in some way.
- There is a set of coloured cards for each shape and colour. (There might be a green triangle, a red triangle, a yellow triangle, etc., as well as an orange circle, red circle etc.).
- One person is the caller. They mix up the cards and draw one from a special grab bag. They call out what is on the card.
- The players who have this coloured shape cover it with a token.
- The first one who covers their board calls out 'Bingo!' and wins the game.
- Then they get to be the caller for the next game.



# Dominos

(Ages: 3-6 years)

## Preparation:

- Big piece of cardboard
- Markers
- Ruler, grey lead pencil, eraser
- Scissors/cutter
- Stones can be used as an alternative to cardboard



## Instructions

- Draw a table on a piece of cardboard and divide it into small rectangles. All rectangles must have the same dimensions.
- Divide each rectangle in half with a marker.
- Fill each half with a combination of dots (one dot in one half and two dots in the other half, one dot in one half and three dots in the other half, one dot in one half and four dots in the other half, etc.
- Combinations must be made out of one dot to six dots.
- Neatly apply a layer of sticky tape around the cardboard so it is sturdy and long-lasting. Cut the domino pieces with scissors or a cutter.
- Dominos can be used to play many games, such as matching numbers end to end.

