

Practical Ideas for Younger Children: Put each of the Following in 'Ziploc Activity Bags' & Store in a Box for quick access:

Listening ...Library books on tape, or a chosen You Tube story

Sort and Classify...

- \$ store plastic animals –sort animals onto a blue construction paper (live in water) and a brown construction paper (live on land); classify farm animals/ zoo animals
- Small muffin tins to sort COLOURS of M & M candies, blocks (same shapes, or same colours)
- Pattern blocks sorted by shapes, colours, lay on top of copied SHAPE pictures
- Rubbermaid container with varied types of noodles to pick out & Classify/sort into “LIKE” groups (macaroni, fusilli, rotini, rigatoni, penne, rotelle, shells etc.)
- Sort basket of socks to find pairs (show older 4-6 year olds how to fold tops together)
- Basket of mittens to sort into pairs
- Varied jackets to practice zipping up fronts; or buttons to do up (old sweaters)
- Deck of cards to sort into “like numbers”, “like symbols”; simple games/puzzles;
- Match the containers to the proper lids (varied sized Rubbermaid)

Manipulatives...build: block play, lego, duplo, geoboards/elastics, unifix interlocking cubes

- Play Dough with: a Plastic placemat for each child at table with a lump of playdough, squeeze and pinch (varied small rolling pins, empty glue sticks to roll or stamp), cookie cutters, a garlic press, a plastic fork, plastic knife, plastic cups etc.
- Bubble Wrap (from mailed packages) to finger pinch and pop
- Small squeeze balls to squeeze in fist, roll into a sideways bucket
- Child scissors with coloured paper different sizes to make short frilly type cuts all around 'edges'
- Alphabet sticker letters to peel off and stick on given paper (same letters together), or magnetic letters on board
- Thicker shoe laces to String cheerios of fruit loops onto (younger children just lace different colours in succession, older preschool can do 5 of one colour then 5 of another another),
- Lacing cards, stacking cups, stack checkers in piles/colours
- White boards ...copy the model given of 'straight lines _____, diagonals, curvy lines, circles, etc.
- Loose leaf paper ...can you draw along a given line with a pencil (left to right)? Keep going...
- Large pad of paper...free art anything goes with (coloured pencils, felts, pencils, shading)
- Cushions on the floor or plastic milk crates to...(step “on” and “off”, go under/over, make a 'road' to step along squares of coloured paper on floor, bean bags to throw into bucket(s)
- Balloons batted with a paper towel roll (keep it up) in defined space (family room)...
- 6 ft.length of a Coloured Streamer taped onto a drinking straw to wave, move around, dance
- A play tent to read books in; play kitchen to serve food;
- SINK play (e.g. varied plastic measuring cups, spoons, animals, tub toys, plastic boats etc.) & \$ store plastic tablecloth for floor