

Bloom Room

♥ CREATIVITY & IMAGINATION ♥

A Complete
Creativity &
Imagination
Activity Pack

The Wonder Hunt

Exploring creativity and imagination
through wondering, building, inventing, and making.



♥ Wonder • ♥ Imagine • ♥ Create

♥ The Gro Academy ♥

Welcome to The Wonder Hunt

Children are born curious. Every pebble, shadow, feather, and puddle invites them to stop, look closer, and ask, "I wonder..."

This week celebrates the joy of noticing. Through playful, hands-on experiences, children will observe, explore, make predictions, solve simple problems, and discover that learning often begins with a single question. Rather than searching for the "right" answer, they'll practice looking carefully, trying new ideas, and sharing their discoveries with others.

Whether you're exploring outdoors, peeking inside a mystery bag, building a bridge, or creating a classroom Wonder Wall, every activity encourages children to slow down, stay curious, and enjoy the process of learning together.

So grab a magnifying glass—or simply your sense of wonder—and let's see what we can discover.

Happy exploring! ❤️
the gro academy
team

Home Extension: What's Different Today?

Looking carefully to notice small changes.

About This Activity:

Wonder often begins when we notice something we didn't see before. In this playful family game, children will observe familiar objects, notice one small change, and talk about what they discover together. By slowing down and looking carefully, they'll find that everyday moments are full of wonder.

Materials:

- A small table or flat surface
- 4–6 familiar household objects (toy, spoon, book, leaf, etc.)

Instructions:

1. Arrange 4–6 familiar objects on a table and invite your child to look carefully at each one.
2. Ask your child to describe what they notice, then have them close their eyes.
3. Make one simple change by removing, adding, moving, or turning an object.
4. Invite your child to open their eyes and discover what changed.
5. Talk about how they noticed the change, then take turns creating new ones.

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Begin with just two or three familiar objects and make one obvious change, such as removing or replacing an item. Encourage your child to point, touch, and describe what they notice using simple language like, "Something changed!" Keep the experience playful and celebrate careful observation rather than finding the "right" answer.

Developmental Connections:

- **Approaches to Learning:** Looking carefully before responding • Sustaining attention during observation
- **Literacy & Language:** Describing observations • Asking and answering questions about change
- **Social & Emotional:** Sharing discoveries with a trusted adult • Taking turns during cooperative play

Mystery Bag Explorers

Exploring hidden objects through curiosity and observation.

About This Activity:

Every mystery begins with a moment of wonder. Children use their senses to investigate hidden objects tucked inside a mystery bag, describing what they notice, sharing ideas with their classmates, and making thoughtful predictions before revealing the object together. As they observe, compare, and wonder together, they'll discover that asking thoughtful questions and listening to different perspectives can be just as exciting as revealing the answer.

Materials:

- Fabric bag or small drawstring bag
- Observation tray or basket (optional)
- 6–10 familiar classroom objects
- Wonder Object Cards (BloomRoom Premium Resource)

Instructions:

1. Place one familiar object inside the mystery bag without showing the children what it is.
2. Invite one child at a time to gently reach inside the bag and explore the object using only their sense of touch.
3. Encourage children to describe what they notice by talking about the object's size, shape, texture, temperature, or other characteristics without naming it right away.
4. Invite classmates to share their own observations, predictions, and questions before revealing the object together.
5. Continue exploring new objects, celebrating thoughtful observations, curious questions, and different ideas throughout the activity.

Continue →

Facilitator Focus

Resist the urge to reveal the object too quickly. Encourage children to spend time describing what they notice before trying to identify it. When adults model curiosity by wondering alongside children instead of confirming answers right away, children learn that careful observation, thoughtful questions, and different ideas are valuable parts of the learning process.

Conversation Starters

- What does our neighborhood need?
- How do people travel from place to place?
- Where do neighbors like to gather?
- How can we make everyone feel welcome?

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Offer one familiar object at a time and encourage younger children to explore it with their hands before revealing it. Use simple descriptive words like soft, bumpy, smooth, or round, and invite children to repeat or point as they notice different characteristics. Focus on exploring together rather than identifying the object correctly.

Developmental Connections:

- **Approaches to Learning:**

Observing carefully before responding • Persisting through uncertainty • Using flexible thinking to consider new ideas

- **Cognitive**

Comparing object characteristics • Making predictions from sensory information • Investigating through observation and touch

- **Literacy & Language**

Describing objects with rich vocabulary • Listening to others' observations • Explaining predictions and ideas

- **Social & Emotional**

Taking turns during group exploration • Respecting different ideas • Building confidence by sharing observations

Wonder Object Cards

Observing, comparing, and discovering
through everyday objects.



Facilitator
Guide
Included!

Using Your Wonder Object Cards

These cards are designed to inspire observation, conversation, and curiosity through hands-on exploration. Use them during this activity or revisit them throughout the year to encourage children to notice, compare, and wonder together.



WAYS TO EXPLORE



Mystery Bag

Place a matching object inside a fabric bag. Encourage children to describe what they feel before revealing the object and comparing it to the card.



Look Closely

Invite children to examine a card and share everything they notice about the object's color, shape, texture, size, and details.



Sort & Compare

Sort objects by texture, flexibility, sound, or whether they are natural or man-made. Encourage children to explain their thinking.



Wonder Together

Choose one card and ask open-ended questions about the object. Celebrate different ideas and observations.



Find It

Challenge children to look for matching or similar objects in the classroom or outdoors.



Describe & Share

Invite children to use describing words to explain how the object feels, sounds, looks, and moves.

Conversation Starters

- ♥ What do you notice?
- ♥ What makes you think that?
- ♥ How does it feel?
- ♥ What words could describe it?
- ♥ What is something surprising about this object?
- ♥ How is it the same as another object? How is it different?
- ♥ Where might you find something like this?

BloomRoom Reminder ♥

Wonder begins with noticing. Slow down, ask thoughtful questions, and celebrate children's observations, ideas, and curiosity.

The goal isn't to guess correctly—it's to discover together.



♥ SMOOTH ♥



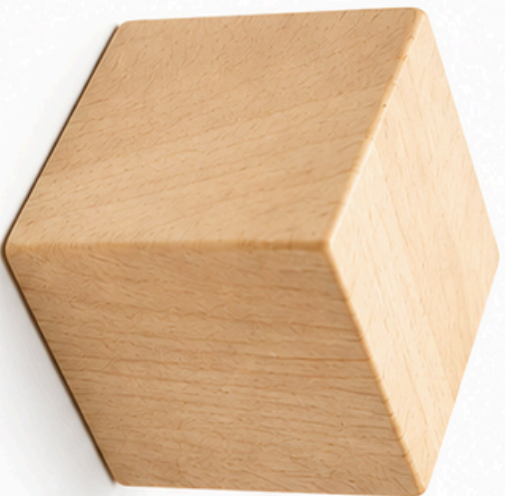
Spoon

♥ SMOOTH ♥



Stone

♥ SMOOTH ♥



Wooden Block

♥ SMOOTH ♥



Ribbon



ROUGH



Pinecone



ROUGH



Bark



ROUGH



Scrub Sponge



ROUGH



Textured Ball

Fabric Square



SOFT

SOFT

Pom-Pom



SOFT

SOFT

Plush Toy



Feather



Ribbon Loop



BENDY



BENDY



Pipe Cleaner



BENDY



Silicone Straw



BENDY



Soft Leaf



Shaker Egg



NOISY

Bell



NOISY

Crinkly Paper



NOISY

Keys



NOISY



NATURAL



Shell



NATURAL



Acorn



NATURAL



Leaf



NATURAL



Seed Pod

Wonder Detectives

Discovering hidden details through careful observation.

About This Activity:

The most amazing discoveries are often the ones we almost miss. Armed with magnifying glasses, mirrors, and curious minds, children become Wonder Detectives as they slow down to investigate everyday objects in new ways. By looking closely, comparing details, and sharing their observations, they'll discover that even the most familiar objects can reveal surprising new discoveries when we take the time to notice.

Materials:

- Magnifying glasses
- Hand mirrors (optional)
- Natural objects (leaves, pinecones, shells, flowers, rocks)
- Everyday classroom objects
- Small observation trays or baskets
- Paper
- Crayons or colored pencils (optional)

Instructions:

1. Arrange a variety of interesting natural and classroom objects on trays or tables for children to explore.
2. Invite children to choose one object and examine it closely using their eyes, magnifying glasses, or mirrors.
3. Encourage children to describe everything they notice, including colors, shapes, textures, patterns, and tiny details.
4. Ask open-ended questions that invite children to compare observations, wonder together, and look again for new discoveries.
5. Gather as a group to share favorite discoveries and celebrate the many different things children noticed.

Continue →

Facilitator Focus

Slow the experience down and resist the urge to point out every interesting detail. Instead, invite children to make discoveries through open-ended questions and plenty of wait time. Every child will notice something different, and those unique observations build confidence, language, and flexible thinking. Celebrate careful observation rather than the "right" answer. As children begin exploring, invite them in by saying, **"Wonder Detectives, let's look a little closer."**

Conversation Starters

- What do you notice first?
- Can you find one more tiny detail?
- What surprised you?
- How does it feel different from another object?
- What do you wonder about this?
- What makes this object special?

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Offer one familiar object at a time and encourage younger children to explore it with their hands and eyes. Model simple words like **smooth, bumpy, big, and tiny**, celebrating every discovery. Focus on shared exploration rather than extended comparison.

Developmental Connections:

- **Approaches to Learning:**

Sustaining attention during exploration • Demonstrating curiosity through careful observation • Persisting while investigating new details

- **Cognitive**

Comparing similarities and differences • Recognizing patterns and characteristics • Building scientific observation skills

- **Literacy & Language**

Using descriptive vocabulary • Explaining observations and ideas • Listening and responding to others' discoveries

- **Social & Emotional**

Building confidence by sharing discoveries • Respecting different perspectives • Participating in collaborative conversations

BloomRoom

Wonder Detective Kit

Looking closely, asking questions,
and discovering more together.



Facilitator
Guide
Included!

Premium Resource from BloomRoom
by The Gro Academy

BloomRoom Facilitator Guide

Wonder Detective Kit

Looking closely, asking questions, and discovering more together.

ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

The Wonder Detective Kit supports children in becoming curious investigators of the world around them. With the Wonder Board and 24 Wonder Prompt Cards, children are invited to look closely, ask thoughtful questions, and make meaningful connections through hands-on exploration.

WHAT'S INCLUDED



1 Wonder Board



24 Wonder Prompt Cards

SETTING UP



Laminate for durability. Laminate the Wonder Board and prompt cards to use again and again.



Introduce with wonder. Show children the board and cards. Invite them to share what they notice and wonder.



Rotate the prompts. Use one card at a time, or let children choose the question that sparks their curiosity.



BloomRoom Tip

Instead of asking every question...
Draw one Wonder Prompt Card.
Let it guide the conversation.

EXTENDING LEARNING

-  Take on nature walks
-  Explore in science tables
-  Add to sensory bins
-  Use with loose parts
-  Investigate classroom collections

STORAGE

Keep the Wonder Board in a visible spot in your classroom.



Store prompt cards on a binder ring or in a small basket. ♥

FOLLOW THE CHILD

Children's questions lead the way. Be a co-investigator—wondering, listening, and learning together.

Remember:

Curiosity grows when children feel seen, heard, and valued.



BLOOMROOM CONNECTIONS

Works beautifully with:

Wonder Object Cards
(Activity 1)

Invite children to choose one object card, then place the matching real object (or something similar) on the Wonder Board to deepen observation and discussion.

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Wonder Board

Look closely. Wonder together. 



What do
you notice?



Can you find
one more
detail?



What do
you wonder?



Today's Wonder



How does
it feel?



What colors
do you see?



How is it
different from
another
object?



Wonder begins with noticing. 

 by The Gro Academy 

BloomRoom Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

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What do
you notice?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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Can you find
one more detail?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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What do
you wonder?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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What colors
do you see?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

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How does it feel?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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How is it different from another object?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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Does it have a smell?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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What do you hear?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

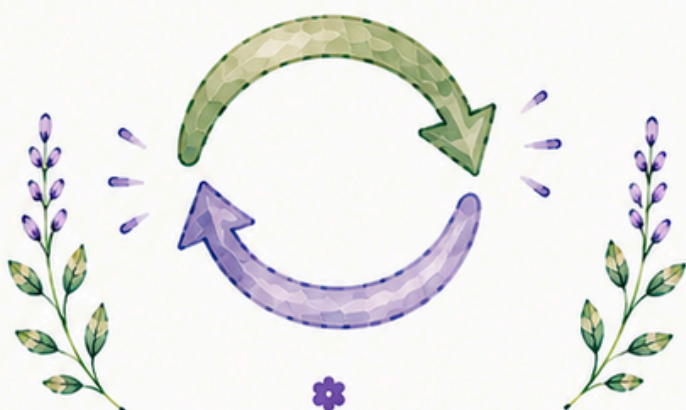
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What surprised
you?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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What changed
when you looked again?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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What does
it remind you of?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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Which part is
your favorite?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

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What small details
do you notice?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What colors
do you see?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What story
might this tell?

Wonder begins with noticing.

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Where in the world
could this be?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

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What new idea
does this give you?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



If you could take a
picture of this, what
would you capture?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What might you want
to explore more?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What questions
does this bring up?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom Wonder Prompt Cards

Use with the Wonder Board to spark curiosity and conversation.

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Which way
would you go next?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What part
is most interesting
to you?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



What would you
like to learn
about this?

Wonder begins with noticing.

BloomRoom



Where might
this lead?

Wonder begins with noticing.

Bridge Builders

Building, testing, and improving ideas through play.

About This Activity:

Every great builder starts with an idea—and sometimes that idea changes along the way. In this playful engineering challenge, children will use everyday building materials to create a bridge that helps a favorite toy or small animal travel safely across a "river."

As children plan, build, test, and redesign their bridges, they discover that mistakes are part of learning. Every attempt encourages creative thinking, persistence, and problem-solving while strengthening early engineering skills, collaboration, and confidence.

Materials:

- Wooden blocks or building bricks
- Craft sticks
- Cardboard pieces
- Recycled materials (boxes, tubes, lids, etc.)
- Small toy animals or vehicles
- Two books, boxes, or blocks to create a "river"
- Optional: masking tape, clothespins, or binder clips

Instructions:

1. Create a small "river" by placing two books, boxes, or blocks several inches apart.
2. Invite children to choose a favorite toy animal or small vehicle that needs help crossing the river.
3. Encourage children to explore the available materials and build a bridge across the gap.
4. Test the bridge by carefully moving the toy across it together.
5. Encourage children to make changes and try again if the bridge bends, falls, or doesn't reach across.
6. Continue building, testing, and improving until children are satisfied with their design. Celebrate every idea, whether it works the first time or after many attempts.

Facilitator Focus

Focus on the process rather than the finished bridge. Encourage children to predict, test, notice, and revise instead of building for them. Ask open-ended questions that help children reflect on their thinking and celebrate persistence whenever they make adjustments or try a new idea.

BloomRoom Invitation

"Bridge Builders, let's help our friend get safely across the river!"

Conversation Starters

- What is your bridge made of?
- What happened when you tested it?
- What could you change to make it stronger?
- Which materials worked best?
- What would you like to try next?
- How did you solve that problem?

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Offer large blocks or sturdy cardboard pieces and create a very small gap for children to bridge. Focus on stacking, placing, and exploring rather than building a complex structure. Model simple words such as across, strong, on top, and fell down, celebrating every attempt and encouraging children to try again with support.

Developmental Connections:

• **Approaches to Learning:**

Persistence during problem-solving • Trying different strategies • Flexible thinking • Creative exploration

• **Cognitive**

Planning and testing ideas • Cause-and-effect thinking • Early engineering concepts • Spatial reasoning

• **Literacy & Language**

Using descriptive vocabulary • Explaining ideas • Listening to others' suggestions • Asking and answering questions

• **Social & Emotional**

Working together • Sharing materials • Building confidence through perseverance • Celebrating effort and growth

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Bridge Challenge Kit

Inspiring young engineers through building, testing, and creative problem-solving.

Build.
Test.
Imagine.
Grow.


Building
We're building
our bridge!

3 Can your bridge
hold two friends?



Playful
resources for
meaningful
learning.



BRIDGE CHALLENGE CARDS

Spark ideas and
ignite creativity.



RIVER MATS

Beautiful landscapes
for building adventures.



BRIDGE BUILDER SIGNS

Guide the engineering
process together.



DESIGNED FOR

Preschool classrooms,
homeschool, and
learning centers.



For children
ages 3–6

Bridge Challenge Kit

Inspiring young engineers through building, testing, and creative problem-solving.



ABOUT THIS RESOURCE

The Bridge Challenge Kit invites children to become curious engineers! Through open-ended play and predictable structure, children plan, build, test, and improve their bridges while developing early STEM skills, persistence, and creative problem-solving.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ♥ Bridge Challenge Cards
- ♥ River Mats
- ♥ Bridge Builder Signs



SETTING UP

- Set out materials for building bridges: blocks, planks, boxes, tubes, sticks, loose parts, and recycled materials.
- Place a river mat in the center of the space.
- Display the Bridge Builder Signs in order: Planning, Building, Testing, Success!



HOW TO USE THE CHALLENGE CARDS



- Invite children to choose or draw a challenge card.
- Read the challenge together and talk about ideas.
- Encourage children to plan and build their bridge.
- Test the bridge and reflect: What worked? What could we try next?
- Children can repeat the same challenge or choose a new one!

HOW TO USE THE RIVER MATS



- Use the mats as the foundation for all bridge building. They define the space, inspire storytelling, and add natural beauty to your learning environment.
- Children can build across the river, around it, or design bridges that meet specific challenges.

HOW TO USE THE BRIDGE BUILDER SIGNS



- Introduce the signs as the steps of the engineering process.
- Move through the signs together as children plan, build, test, and celebrate.
- The signs help children develop a sense of sequence and purpose in their work.

BLOOMROOM TIP

Celebrate persistence, not perfection! Remind children that engineers try, test, and try again. Mistakes are part of the process and help our ideas get stronger.



EXTENDING LEARNING



BUILD WITH DIFFERENT MATERIALS
Try recycled items, cardboard, tubes, sticks, or natural loose parts.



TAKE IT OUTDOORS
Build bridges over real streams, sand, or puddles.



CHANGE THE CHALLENGES
Draw your plan before, building or your bridge. What happens?

STORAGE

Store cards and signs in a small basket or envelope. Roll up river mats and keep materials in labeled baskets or bins for easy access.



FOLLOW THE CHILD

Notice children's interests and ideas. Offer support, open-ended questions, and new materials to extend their thinking. Let their curiosity lead the way.



BLOOMROOM CONNECTIONS

- APL** Approaches to Play & Learning
Encourages exploration, problem-solving, and creative expression.
- CGK** Cognition & General Knowledge
Supports early math, spatial reasoning, and cause-and-effect thinking.
- LDC** Language & Communication
Builds vocabulary, storytelling, and collaborative conversations.
- SED** Social & Emotional Development
Fosters persistence, teamwork, and confidence through shared success.



Every bridge built is a new idea, a new attempt, and a step toward becoming a confident, creative problem-solver.



1

Can your bridge help one friend cross?



Build it. Test it. Try again!



2

Can your bridge hold two friends?



Build it. Test it. Try again!



3

Can a little car drive across?



Build it. Test it. Try again!



4

Can your bridge reach a wider river?



Build it. Test it. Try again!



5

Can you
build it
another way?



6

Can you
make it
stronger?



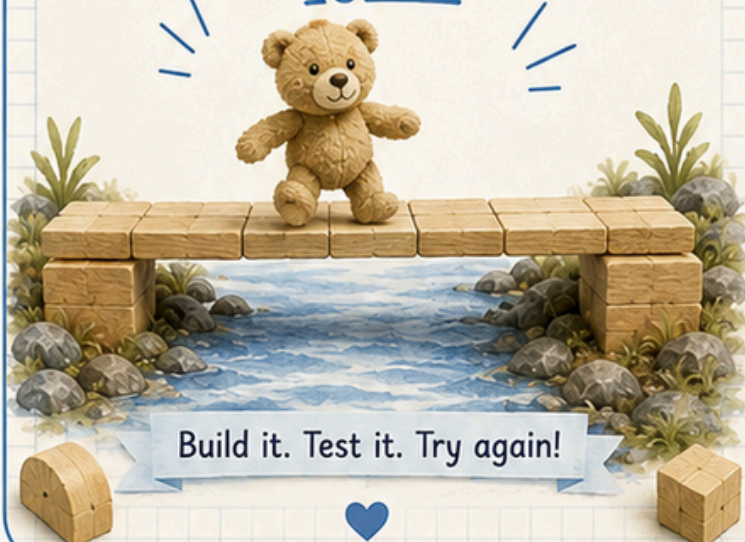
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Can you use
different
materials?

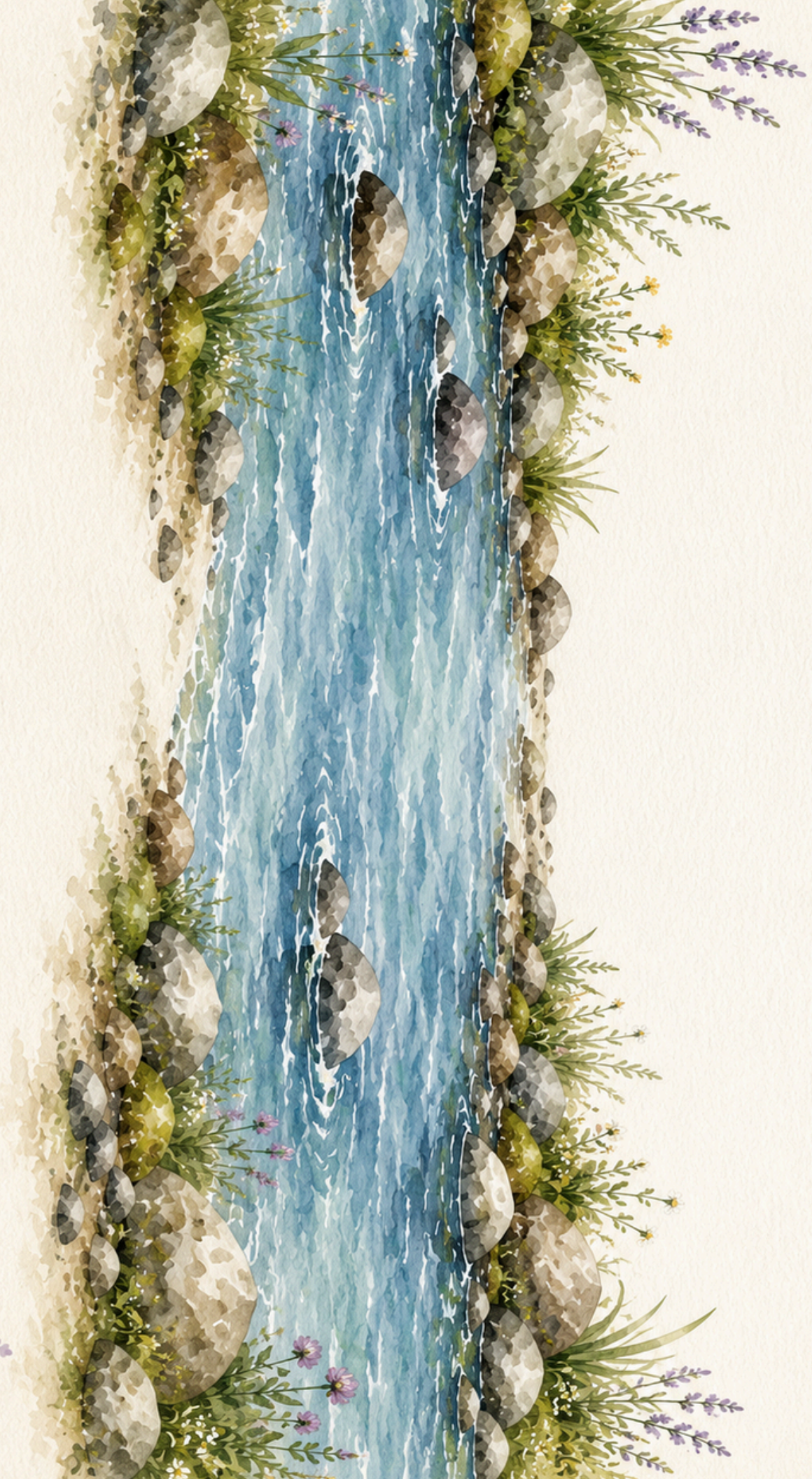


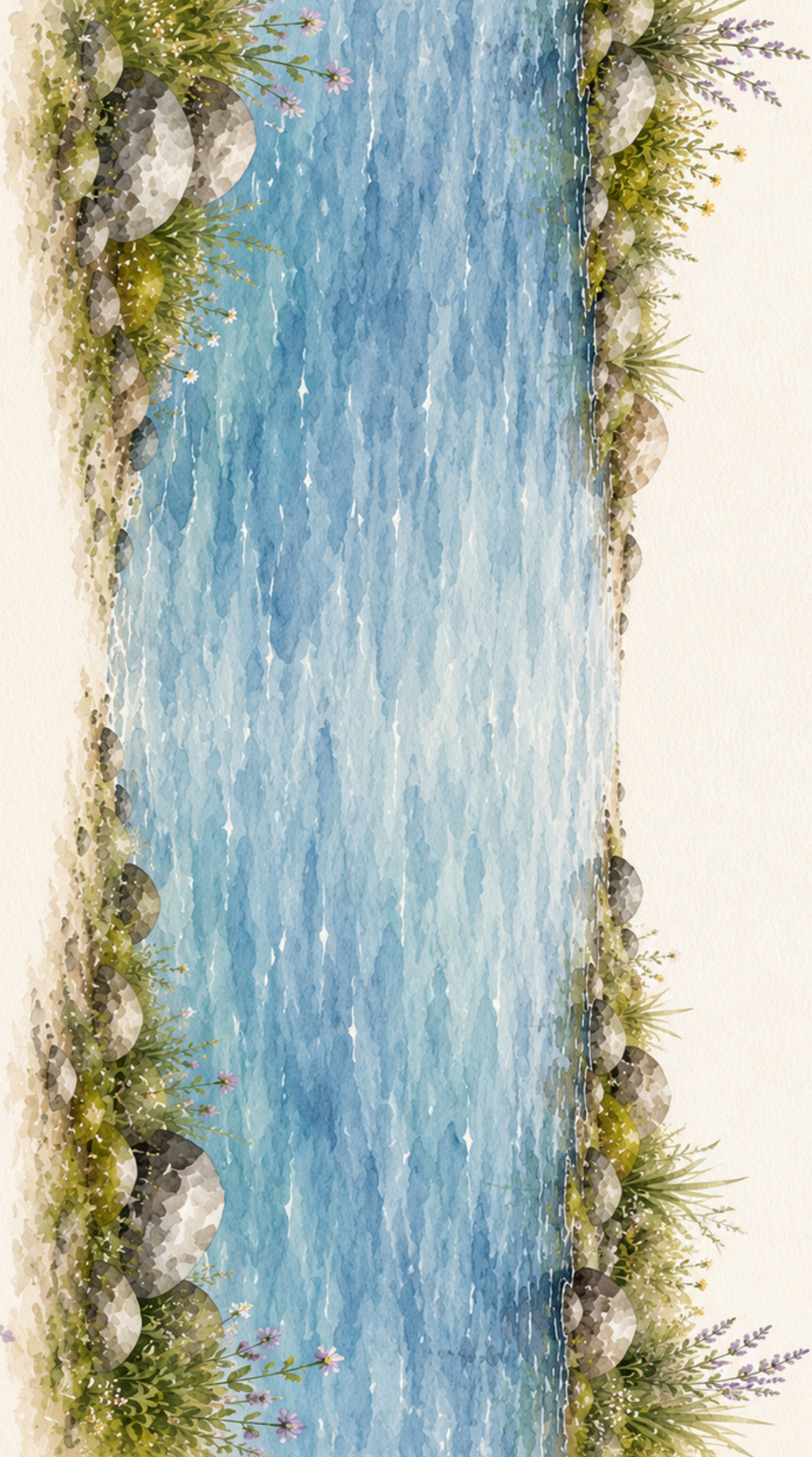
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What happens
if you test it
again?











Planning

We're thinking
about our bridge!



Building

We're building
our bridge!



Testing

Let's see what
happens!



Success!

We did it!
We built a bridge!



The Curious Contraption Lab

Imagining, inventing, and discovering through playful experimentation.

About This Activity:

Welcome to the Curious Contraption Lab—a place where curious minds invent extraordinary ideas! In this playful invention experience, children become young designers and problem-solvers, using everyday materials to create imaginative "contraptions" that solve whimsical challenges.

There are no right or wrong answers. Every invention begins with a question, a spark of curiosity, and the courage to try something new. As children imagine, build, test, and improve their creations, they discover that creativity and scientific thinking often go hand in hand.

Materials:

- Recycled materials (cardboard tubes, boxes, lids, cartons, etc.)
- Wooden blocks or loose parts
- Craft sticks
- Pipe cleaners
- String or yarn
- Clothespins or binder clips
- Natural materials (pinecones, sticks, stones, leaves)
- Tape (masking or painter's)
- Child-safe scissors (optional)
- Mystery Mission Cards (BloomRoom Resource)

Instructions:

1. Introduce the Curious Contraption Lab by inviting children to become inventors with a special Mystery Mission.
2. Choose one Mystery Mission Card together and read the playful challenge aloud.
3. Explore the available materials and encourage children to imagine different ways they might solve the problem.
4. Create a contraption using any combination of materials.
5. Test the invention together and notice what happens.
6. Revise the contraption by making changes, adding ideas, or trying a completely different approach if desired.
7. Celebrate every invention by inviting children to share how their contraption works and what inspired their ideas.

Facilitator Focus

The Curious Contraption Lab celebrates imagination, experimentation, and playful problem-solving—not perfect inventions. Encourage children to explain their ideas, wonder aloud, and explore unusual possibilities.

Resist solving the challenge for them. Instead, ask open-ended questions and celebrate every attempt as part of the invention process.

BloomRoom Invitation

“Welcome, Inventors! The Curious Contraption Lab has a new Mystery Mission. I wonder what you’ll discover!”

Conversation Starters

- What does your contraption do?
- How did you think of that idea?
- What happened when you tested it?
- What could you change or try next?
- Which materials helped you?
- What would you invent next?

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Provide large, safe materials like cardboard tubes, blocks, and fabric for children to stack, connect, and explore with adult guidance. Use simple words like build, connect, balance, and discover to celebrate curiosity during shared play.

Developmental Connections:

• Approaches to Learning:

Curiosity and initiative • Creative problem-solving • Persistence through experimentation

• Cognitive

Cause-and-effect exploration • Planning and testing ideas • Flexible thinking

• Literacy & Language

Explaining ideas • Asking questions • Using descriptive vocabulary

• Social & Emotional

Collaborating with others • Respecting different ideas • Building confidence through creative risk-taking

BloomRoom

CREATIVITY &
IMAGINATION

WEEK 3:
BUILD IT!

THE CURIOUS CONTRAPTION LAB

CURIOUS CONTRAPTION KIT

Dream it. Build it. Test it. Make it better!

INSPIRE
YOUNG
INVENTORS



A HANDS-ON EXPLORATION OF ENGINEERING, CREATIVITY, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING



24 INSPIRING CARDS
Mystery Missions &
Contraption Parts



3 INVENTOR BLUEPRINT PAGES
Document, reflect,
and celebrate ideas



OPEN-ENDED PLAY
Encourages creativity,
exploration, and iteration



PERFECT FOR
Preschool classrooms,
homeschool, and play spaces

DESIGNED WITH WONDER BY THE GRO ACADEMY

FACILITATOR GUIDE

Dream it. Build it. Test it. Make it better!



ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Children become curious inventors as they explore, create, and test their own contraptions. Using a variety of parts and open-ended challenges, children plan, build, problem-solve, and revise their ideas—just like real engineers!



BUILD

Explore materials and bring ideas to life.



TEST

Try it out and see what happens.



IMPROVE

Reflect, rethink, and make it better!

LEARNING CONNECTIONS



Cognition & Problem-Solving:
Plan, test, and refine solutions.



STEM Exploration:
Explore engineering, cause and effect, and simple machines.



Creativity & Innovation:
Use imagination to design and solve real-world challenges.



Communication & Collaboration:
Share ideas, negotiate roles, and build together.

HOW TO USE THIS KIT

1 SET THE SCENE

Introduce the challenge using a Mystery Mission Card. Invite children to imagine, plan, and gather materials.

2 EXPLORE & BUILD

Encourage children to build their contraptions using the parts and inspiration cards. Support their process, not the product!

3 TEST IT OUT

Invite children to test their creations. Ask open-ended questions: "What happens if...?" "What else could it do?"

4 REFLECT & IMPROVE

Encourage children to make changes and try again. Use the Inventor Blueprint Pages to document thinking.



MATERIALS YOU PROVIDE



- Recycled materials (boxes, tubes, lids, etc.)
- Loose parts (gears, wheels, spools, caps)
- Tape, glue, string, rubber bands
- Child-safe tools (e.g., scissors, hole punch, screwdrivers)
- Building base (cardboard, wood board)
- Magnifying glasses
- Sketching tools
- Clipboards (optional)

FACILITATOR TIPS

- ✓ Ask open-ended questions to extend thinking.
- ✓ Validate effort, creativity, and persistence.
- ✓ Embrace the mess—it's where the learning happens!
- ✓ Encourage risk-taking and celebrate unique ideas.
- ✓ Model curiosity: "I wonder what would happen if...?"

REAL INVENTORS
ASK QUESTIONS.
TRY IDEAS.
MAKE MISTAKES.
AND KEEP GOING!

★ REMEMBER

There is no "right" way to build a contraption. The magic is in the thinking, trying, and discovering!



DOCUMENT & CELEBRATE

Take photos, collect quotes, and display children's ideas. Celebrate their process, not just the product!



MYSTERY MISSION

The hedgehog
wants to carry
five shiny
acorns
at once.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The butterfly
needs help
reaching a very
tall flower.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The sleepy bear
keeps dropping
his blanket.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The snail wants
to travel
faster.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION



The bird wants
to water a
tiny seed.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION



The mouse needs
a way to cross
a puddle.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION



The frog wants
a comfy seat to
watch the stars.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION



The raccoon wants
a way to reach
the juiciest
berries.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The bunny needs
a way to hop
over the tall
grass.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The owl needs
help seeing in
the dark.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The turtle wants
to protect her
shell from
too much sun.

Can you invent
something to
help?



MYSTERY MISSION

The fox wants
to deliver a
surprise without
getting caught.

Can you invent
something to
help?





Bloom Room

BUCKET



What could this
carry or collect?

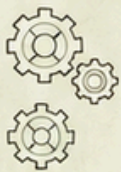


Bloom Room

TUBE



How might this help
things travel?



Bloom Room

SPINNER

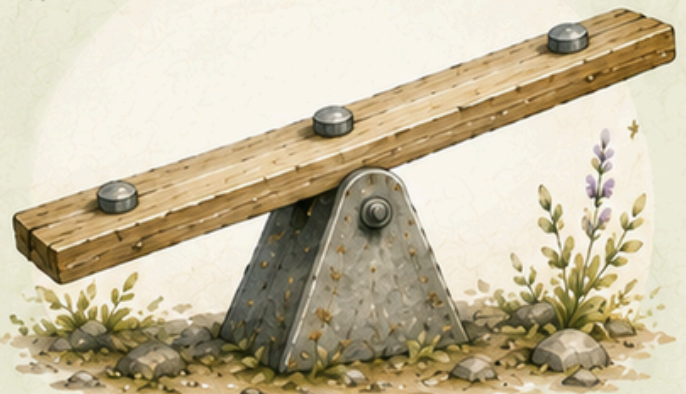


What might this
make happen?

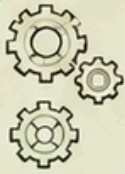


Bloom Room

BALANCE

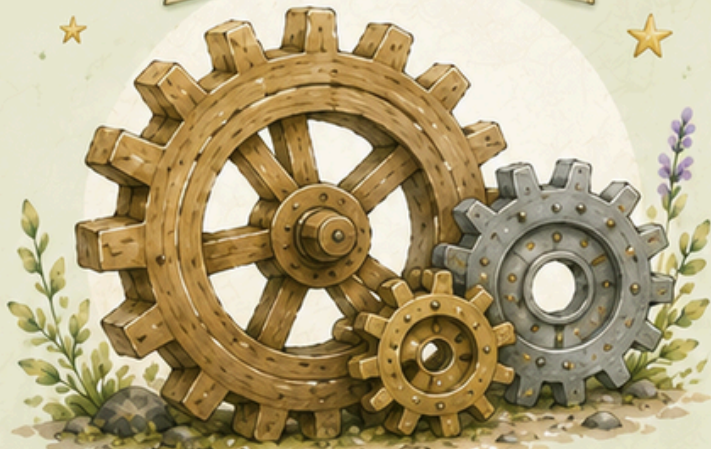


How could this help
keep things steady?



Bloom Room

GEAR



What might this
make happen?

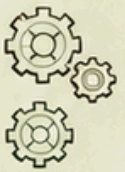


Bloom Room

LEVER



How could this help
make things move?

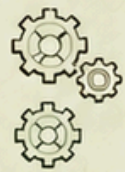


Bloom Room

BUCKET



What could this
carry or collect?



Bloom Room

TUBE



How might this help
things travel?

Look, think, imagine, and build!

Bloom Room

HINGE



What could this help open or close?

Bloom Room

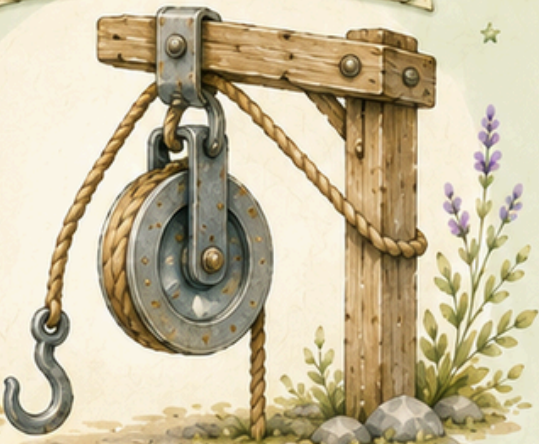
SCOOP



What could this help gather or move?

Bloom Room

PULLEY



What could this help lift or lower?

Bloom Room

FUNNEL



What could this help pour or guide?

1

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MY CONTRAPTION

Draw your amazing contraption!

What does it do?

2

Bloom Room

BEFORE & AFTER

Inventors test their ideas
and make them even better!

MY FIRST IDEA

MY NEW IDEA

What did you change or add?

3

Bloom Room

THE INVENTOR'S NOTEBOOK

Big ideas start with wondering!

I wonder...

I discovered...

The Wonder Makers Studio

Creating, imagining, and sharing original ideas through open-ended play.

About This Activity:

Welcome to the Wonder Makers Studio—a place where ordinary materials become extraordinary ideas. Children are invited to imagine something the world has never seen before using recycled materials, loose parts, natural treasures, and their own creativity. As they create, revise, and share their ideas, they strengthen creativity, confidence, communication, and flexible thinking while discovering that every idea begins with imagination.

Materials:

- Recycled materials (boxes, tubes, lids, cartons)
- Loose parts (buttons, corks, wooden rings, craft sticks)
- Natural materials (sticks, leaves, pinecones, stones, shells)
- Fabric scraps, ribbon, yarn, and string
- Child-safe tape and glue
- Washable markers, crayons, or paint (optional)
- Safety scissors (optional)
- Wonder Invitation Cards (BloomRoom Resource)

Instructions:

1. Invite children into the Wonder Makers Studio and explain that today they may create anything they imagine.
2. Choose a Wonder Invitation Card or encourage children to begin with an idea of their own.
3. Explore the available materials and imagine different possibilities before building.
4. Create an original project using any combination of materials.
5. Add details, colors, textures, or moving parts to make the creation uniquely their own.
6. Share the finished creation by telling its story, explaining its purpose, or giving it a name.
7. Celebrate every unique idea and display creations in a Wonder Gallery if desired.

Facilitator Focus

The Wonder Makers Studio celebrates imagination, originality, and creative expression. Encourage children to follow their own ideas rather than copy examples. Ask open-ended questions that invite storytelling and celebrate every unique creation.

BloomRoom Invitation

"Welcome, Wonder Makers! Today your imagination is the most important tool in the studio. I can't wait to see what amazing ideas you bring to life!"

Conversation Starters

- Tell me about your creation.
- What inspired your idea?
- What does it do?
- How did you decide to use those materials?
- What would you like to add next?
- What should we call your creation?

Infant & Toddler Adaptation:

Offer large, safe loose parts for children to stack, arrange, connect, and explore alongside an adult. Celebrate every discovery while modeling descriptive words and encouraging curiosity through shared play.

Developmental Connections:

- **Approaches to Learning:**

Persistence during problem-solving • Trying different strategies • Flexible thinking • Creative exploration

- **Cognitive**

Planning and testing ideas • Cause-and-effect thinking • Early engineering concepts • Spatial reasoning

- **Literacy & Language**

Using descriptive vocabulary • Explaining ideas • Listening to others' suggestions • Asking and answering questions

- **Social & Emotional**

Working together • Sharing materials • Building confidence through perseverance • Celebrating effort and growth

BloomRoom

♥ CREATIVITY & IMAGINATION ♥

12
Imagination
Prompts

Wonder Sparks Cards

Small Sparks. Endless Possibilities.



♥ Wonder • ♥ Imagine • ♥ Create

♥ The Gro Academy ♥

Wonder Sparks Cards

12
Imagination
Prompts

Small Sparks. Endless Possibilities.

FACILITATOR GUIDE

Wonder Sparks Cards are simple invitations that help children dream big, think freely, and explore endless possibilities through play, art, and stories.



PURPOSE

These cards spark imagination, encourage creative thinking, and empower children to express their ideas in their own unique ways.



HOW TO USE

- 1 **Introduce the Cards** – Invite children to gather in a cozy space.
- 2 **Choose a Prompt** – Select a card together or let children choose one that sparks their interest.
- 3 **Wonder Together** – Read the prompt aloud and invite children to think, talk, and imagine.
- 4 **Create & Explore** – Encourage children to draw, build, act out, write, or craft their ideas.
- 5 **Share (Optional)** – Invite children to share their creations and ideas if they feel comfortable.



TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- ♥ **Keep it open-ended.** There are no right or wrong answers—wonder freely!
- ♥ **Celebrate every idea.** All thoughts are valuable and inspiring.
- ♥ **Be a curious co-explorer.** Ask questions, listen, and wonder together.
- ♥ **Revisit often.** Return to cards again and again to spark new ideas.



REMEMBER

Wonder grows when we create a space where ideas are seen, heard, and celebrated. You help keep that wonder glowing!



QUICK TIPS

- ♥ Use during morning meeting, centers, or calm-down time.
- ♥ Pair with art, storytelling, building materials, or dramatic play.
- ♥ Display cards in a visible place for easy access.
- ♥ Encourage children to follow their ideas wherever they go.



WONDER TOGETHER

Deepen the experience with thoughtful questions:

- ♥ What inspired your idea?
- ♥ What would it look like?
- ♥ How would it work?
- ♥ Who would enjoy it?
- ♥ What else could it become?



EXTEND THE LEARNING

- ♥ Create a “Wonder Wall” to display ideas and creations.
- ♥ Combine prompts for collaborative projects.
- ♥ Encourage children to write or draw their own prompts for others to try.
- ♥ Connect ideas to real-world wonder in nature, books, or your community.



Small Sparks. Endless Possibilities.

Imagine...



Create something that
has never existed before.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create something that
would make people smile.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create something
a butterfly would treasure.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create something that
only comes alive at night.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Small Sparks. Endless Possibilities.

Imagine...



Create a place
where dreams come true.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create something
that comes from a box of magic.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create a new friend
with a very special superpower.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create a tiny world
inside a bottle.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Small Sparks. Endless Possibilities.

Imagine...



Create something
that can fly anywhere.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create a story
that no one has ever heard.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create a creature
that loves to create.

Wonder begins with one idea.

Imagine...



Create a hideaway
just for you.

Wonder begins with one idea.