



London Borough
of Hounslow

Activities Booklet

FOR OUT OF SCHOOL SETTINGS

Early Years Advisory

**ONE
HOUNSLOW**



IMAGINATIVE PLAY



Loose Parts

Introducing lots of simple, everyday natural objects offers children opportunities to explore and use their imagination. They will be able to combine them in many different ways and for different uses.

Loose parts can be anything; big or small, just make sure there are lots of them.



Plan and make a healthy picnic

Set the children a task to plan and create a picnic tea time.

- What will they have as food?
- Will they plan a theme for the picnic?
- What will they need?
- Will you give them a budget?
- Are they going to create invitations and a menu?



Turn a box into anything

Source lots of different size boxes, some creative materials and allow the children to turn them into anything they like.

You could show them some photos for inspiration or set them a task or theme such as:

- Create something that can move
- Create something you could camp out in
- Create something you could sleep in
- Theme: transport
- Theme: a home for a pet
- Theme:



Making dens and forts

What better way to get the imagination going then to build dens..... once the dens are created the opportunities for play are endless.....

All you need is chairs and large sheets or large pieces of material and some pegs are helpful too.

If you have access to a wooded area then sticks and branches are another option.

Children could add pillows, cushions and blankets to make them extra cosy too!

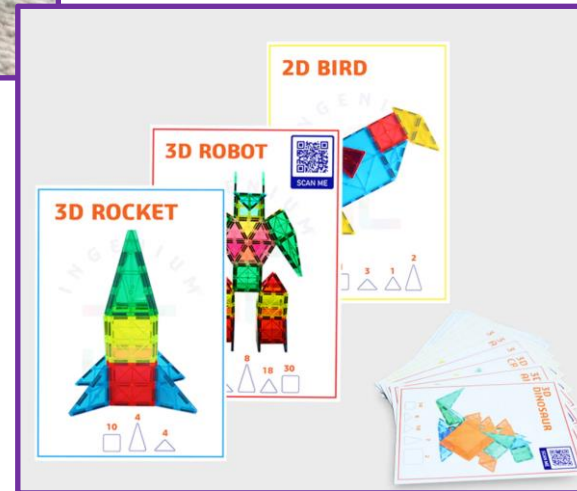




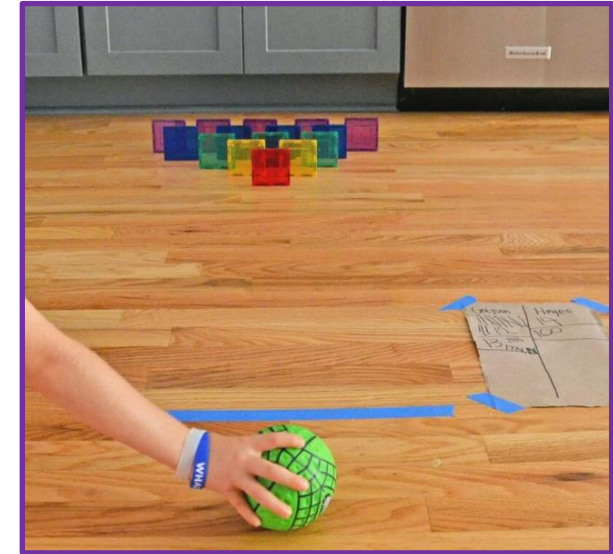
Dominoes

Display challenge cards or make an example to spark interest and keep children engaged. These can be changed weekly (or more often) and visuals help the activity to be accessible by all age ranges.

Create a ramp for toy cars.



Indoor bowling

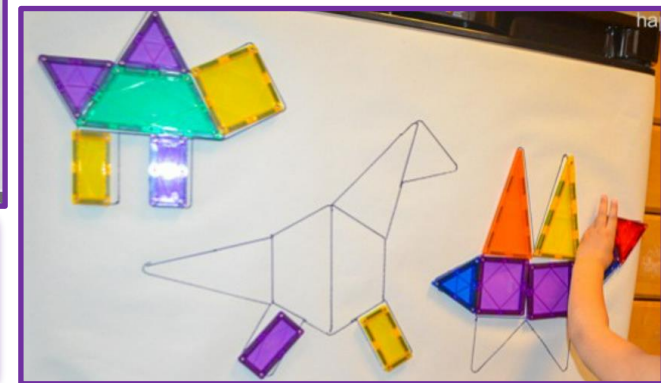


Puzzle match

Tip: for older children make animals, flowers, or random patterns. Either draw each individual magnet or trace around the entire pattern.



Mix and Match creature puzzles

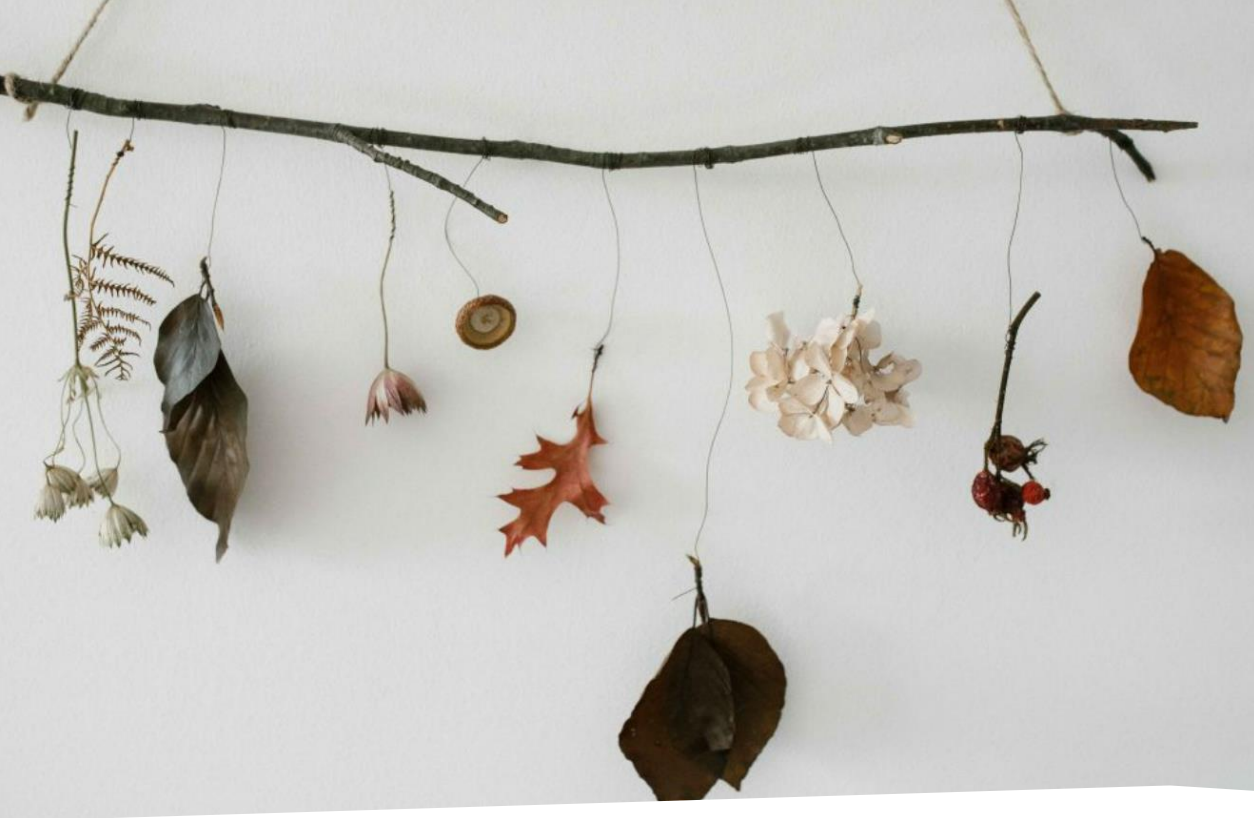


Dinosaurs

Make a game of twister

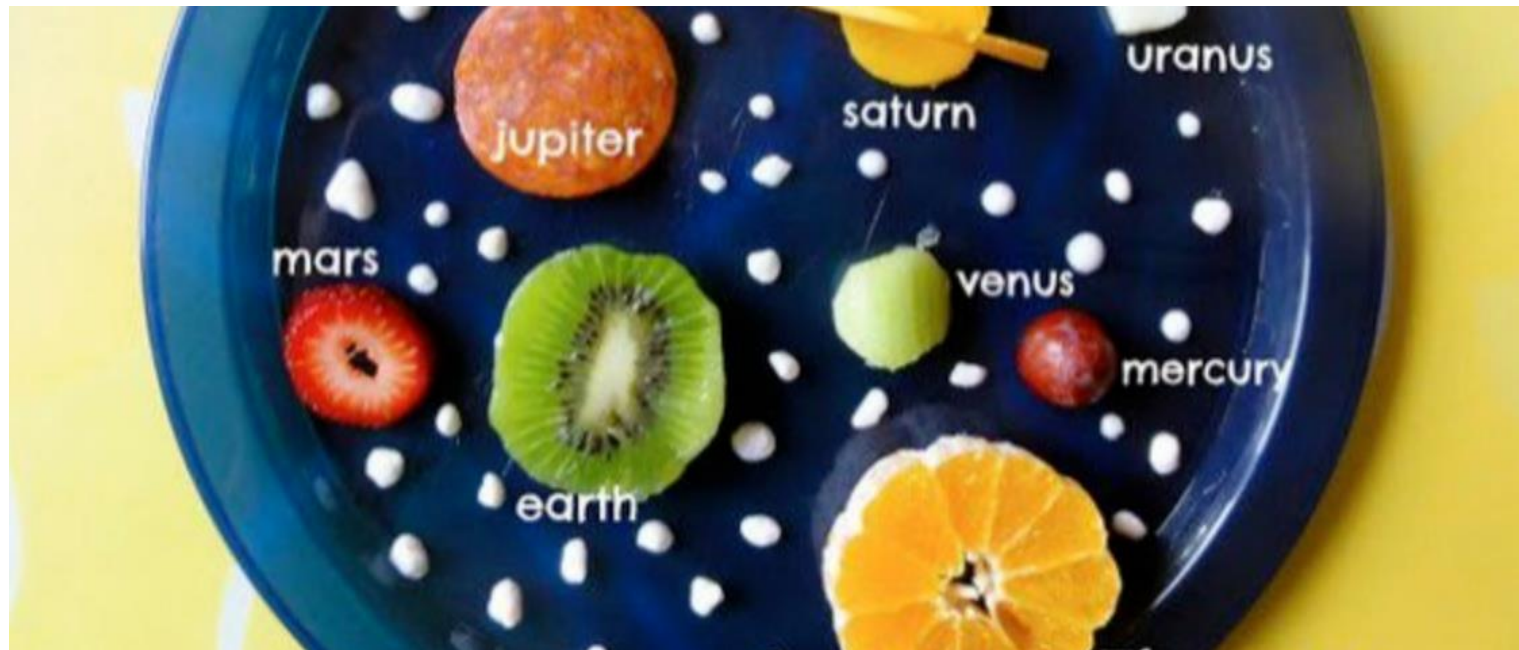
- *Make your own mat*
- *Design a colour dice*
- *Create a cube for parts of the body – add your own twists and challenges to the cube!*
- *Have fun!*





Nature mobile crafts

Space Activities



Sensory Play



Mystery Boxes



What do you need?

- Empty cardboard boxes
- 3 items that feel different
- decoration materials (paint, fabric, pens, stickers etc.)

Instructions:

- Cut a hole into the bottom of the box and use the top of the box as the opening at the back
- Decorate your boxes if you want to
- Place the items you have chosen into the boxes using the back opening.
- Ask children to put their hand through the hole and guess what is in the box

Mystery scented Playdough

What do you need? (makes 1)

- 8 tbsp plain flour
- 2 tbsp table salt
- 60ml warm water
- food colouring
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- Essential oil (be aware of allergies)



Instructions:

- Mix the dry ingredients and the wet ingredients together in separate bowls
- Pour the coloured water into the flour mix and bring together with a spoon.
- Add 10 drops of essential oil
- Knead together for a few minutes to form a smooth, pliable dough. If you want a more intense colour you can work in a few extra drops of food colouring.
- Store in a plastic sandwich bag (squeeze out the air) in the fridge to keep it fresh.

Sound Tubes

What do you need?

- Toilet or kitchen roll tube
- Elastic band
- Masking tape
- Paper
- Something to decorate your tube
- Rice/ bells/ dried beans



Instructions:

- Tape one end of your tube
- Decorate your tube with anything you want (paint, glitter, sequins, pens etc.)
- Add your noise making items
- Fold the paper over the top of your tube
- Fix the paper in place with an elastic band
- Enjoy your music!

Tea Bag Matching Game

What do you need?

- Different fruit flavoured tea bags



Instructions:

- Lay out 2 of each of the tea bags
- Ask the children to smell the tea bags and put them into their pairs by the way that they smell.