

Creative play with scrap resources

Fixed equipment offers few opportunities for creative and imaginative play. Providing loose parts, including scrap resources offers the chance for children to challenge themselves and develop co-operative play.

If a setting introduces or uses loose parts a procedure needs to be put in place for their management and use. This procedure can be created through shared discussions with staff, children and parents/carers and should consider the benefits as well as the risks of using loose parts.

The HSE statement *Children's Play and Leisure - Promoting a Balanced Approach* is a useful starting point for discussions with parents.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/childrens-play-july-2012.pdf>



Resources: cardboard boxes, masking tape, tyres, ropes, wood (check for rough edges), drain pipes, tubes, tunnels etc.

This can either be open ended or they can be given a challenge:

- Make a familiar object, e.g. plane, castle or car
- Make a track for a toy car, ball or water to travel along
- Make an obstacle course for someone else

