

"The Imagination Basket"



Encourage creativity and open-ended play using simple household or classroom materials.

Materials:

- A small basket or tray
- 5-7 simple items (examples: cloth napkin, wooden spoon, small mirror, pinecone, ribbon, seashell, spool of thread)

How to Play:

1. Place the basket in a quiet play area.
2. Invite the child to explore freely — no directions, no "right way."
3. Observe how they use the items. They might turn the ribbon into a road, the spoon into a microphone, or the napkin into a cape.
4. After play, ask open-ended questions:



- "What did you imagine this could be?"
- "What story did you create?"

5. Switch out items every few weeks to keep it fresh and inspiring.

Why It Works:

This activity gives children a chance to lead their own learning, building creativity, focus, and problem-solving skills — all without adding more "stuff."

