

Learning opportunities

This information can help guide an awareness of possible learning that might occur during these experiences. This is not a complete list and learning will depend on how children engage, and how educators respond to this. Please note all experiences should be offered to children, not required of them, to support agency and positive relationships with children.

Small construction

Potential learning opportunities

STEM - exploring engineering skills working out how to build items, understanding shapes/measurements/counting, exploring how items join together e.g. magnets, clips, suction cups etc.

Cognitive skills - problem solving issues, planning ahead, transferring knowledge

Emotional skills - building resilience when things don't work, adaptability, handling emotions and responding appropriately

Fine motor - manipulating and using small items

Language - communicating ideas to others

Potential interactions

- Role model making different items using the materials to support children's ideas

- Give children feedback on their constructions to help build skills (based on their cues and willingness to receive this)

- Listen to children and identify opportunities to challenge or extend on play by introducing new ideas or resources based on their ideas

- Ask children for help with your construction to assess their level of skills and knowledge e.g. "how do I get it to stop falling down?"

- Allow exploration and avoid only asking what is being made

Approved Learning Framework Links

Learning Outcomes

1 - Shares ideas and knowledge; 2 - Learning from others in social play; 3 - Developing physical and emotional skills; 4 - Engaging with a range of dispositions and skills through the play; 5 - Communicating ideas with others

Practices:

Holistic, integrated and interconnected approaches; Responsiveness to children; Play-based learning an intentionality; Learning environments, Cultural responsiveness

