

Developmental Play Activity Overview

Deconstruction Station



Year Group/s: EYFS

EYFS Curriculum Framework Links:

- Personal, Social, and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Physical Development
- Understanding the World
- Communication and Language
- Expressive Arts and Design

Summary:

This activity is much like a reused materials construction station, but the twist is everything built here is made to be deconstructed and reconstructed into something brand new. It aims to expose students to the idea of reusing and repurposing materials, and keeping materials in the circular economy for as long as possible.

Prior Knowledge required:

Learning objective:

To explore how materials can be reused, deconstructed, and kept in the circular economy

I can understand that materials can be used many times when we build, take apart, and

I can deconstruct my creation so the materials can be reused again by myself or others.

I can explain how reusing and repurposing materials helps reduce waste

Prepare before the lesson:

Collected cardboard construction materials

Masking tape

Discuss with children that like other developmental materials what they build will have to remain in the classroom for others to use

Activity Outline:

1. Students arrive at the station and explore a wide range of cardboard, paper tubes, trays, boxes, and other reusable building materials.
2. Children sort through the collection, selecting the shapes, sizes, and textures they want to work with. They can gather as many materials as they need for their idea.
3. Using masking tape, students start connecting and layering their chosen pieces. They can build tall, wide, decorative, functional—whatever their imagination leads them to create.
4. Students experiment with different ways of joining, shaping, or stacking materials. They can test ideas, make changes, and try new approaches as they construct their unique creation.
5. Once they're happy with their build, students can take a photo to celebrate and remember their design before it is taken apart.
6. When finished, students carefully deconstruct their creation so the materials can be reused again in future builds. Alternatively, they may choose to leave their structure for another student to add to, modify, or take apart.