

# Cardboard Box

Grab any box – cereal, shoe or fruit boxes are all great!

**Main Activity** - enjoy doing this with your child.

1. Head outside, or stay in, with your boxes and children.
2. Stop and behold a box. Ask, "What is this?" Take answers.
3. Then, share, "The funny thing is, this is NOT a box." Pause. "That's right, this is definitely NOT a box."
4. Wonder, "What could our 'not-a-box' be?"
5. Demonstrate a few ideas. Put the box on your head and, you've got a hat. Hop in and start to row, row, row your boat. Tap with sticks, and you've got a drum.
6. Have fun using your imaginations and the objects around you to turn your not-a-box into endless new things.
7. No need to rush. Stay silly. Enjoy each new idea for as long as your child wants to, letting new ideas find you.



8. Maybe try listening to or watch a reading of Not A Box

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXqFv610g0o>

**Independent Extension Activities** - Set these up for independent play or play together.

- Cut a few larger holes or windows/doors in your box to open up new possibilities.
- Pre-poke holes in your box with a screwdriver. These holes can become perfect ways to stuff or pass light, twigs, grasses, yarn/string, etc. through the box.

## Activities/ Ideas

- Help your child rub (glue stick), pour or paint glue/water mixture on the side of the box, then stick on bits of paper, leaves, petals, grasses, and other nature treasures.
- Wrap tape around the box with the sticky side facing out. Collect fallen leaves, petals, and grasses to add to the outside of your box. What can it become now?
- Let your child stick twigs into the holes.

- Wrap or weave string or yarn around your box, in and around the sticks, or through holes you've made in your box.
- See how rain sounds from under or inside your box. Watch what changes about your box as it gets wetter and wetter. What gets worse and what gets better? If it's really rainy, can you make box soup in a large pot? If you strain and dry out the box soup on a towel, what do you see the next day?
- The Big Orange Splot—Listen to the book online. Get out the paint and other materials and turn a box into the home of your dreams.

[https://justbooksreadaloud.com/ReadToMe\\_AutoPlay.php?vid=BigOrangeSplot&iP](https://justbooksreadaloud.com/ReadToMe_AutoPlay.php?vid=BigOrangeSplot&iP)

- Imagine you are an animal and this box is your home. How can you make it cosy? Safe? Pop in and out as you find food to survive.
- Imagine this is your castle/ spaceship/ cave, etc. Decorate and play!
- Try a spot of junk modelling with your box.



When you've finished with your box you could try to make a Herbarium using the cardboard!

Have fun!

From Mrs Horscroft x

P.S. We'd love to see your ideas and creations. Please take a picture and post to our school's twitter feed.

(Activities adapted from those on the Tinkergarten website)