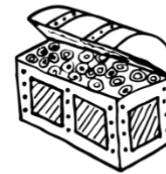


Daily tips for Playful Learning at Home – Number 11



The TINY TREASURE BOX Challenge



Today's idea is all about being curious, about learning to search and to see things in different ways. At the same time there will be some learning about numbers, and shapes – and a chance to tell some family stories too.

Anyone in the family can take part in this – even teenagers might enjoy it. Grandparents or others can even join in online!

What do I need?

A small box for each person, or one to share or take turns with:

- Matchboxes?
- Food containers?
- Anything similar

Outdoors (safely) or indoors

What will your child learn from this playing?

Counting and estimating

Being curious and searching

Movement and coordination skills

How to compare amounts and sort things into types

Making stories and telling them

What do we do?

Find as many things as possible to fit in your boxes and still be able to close it or put the lid on! If you have more than one box of the same size you can do this together. Or you can take turns.

Once the box is full you could ask your child 'I wonder how many items you have?' if they say they don't know have a go at guessing yourself. Then help your child count how many objects are in the box by taking each item out one at a time and counting them as you do this.

Make a list of everyone taking part in the family and record how many each person found. Who has more? Who has less?

And chat about what kinds of things you all have. Are they like each other, or different? Who has the most useful things?

Grandparents or others could play on video chat by showing their boxes too!

How can you take it further?

Pick some of the items and chat about their stories – what are they called, what are they for, and where did they come from?

Help your child to make drawings of the items or of their stories

Find the biggest single item that will still fit in the box

Let your child play with the items as "loose parts" and see what patterns they can make with you

Play & talk together
Be careful with too many questions

Pause and wait for your child to respond
Copy what they say and add to it