



Physical Health, Well-Being, and Movement Skills Activity for 12 to 18 Months

Feed the Clown

Children practice using different grasps and develop eye-hand coordination as they line up the object with the hole and push it through.

Materials:

- Shoe boxes
- Cardboard

To make:

1. Draw a bright clown face on the cover of a shoe box.
2. Cut out the clown's big, open smile.
3. Make several circles out of sturdy cardboard.

What to do:

1. Show the child how to feed "cookies" to the clown by dropping the cardboard into the clown's mouth. Count each "cookie" as it goes in.
2. Help the child get the "cookies" out of the box to use again until she can do it by herself.

Variations:

- A. Use old shoeboxes or oatmeal boxes to make simple drop-in boxes. Cut a hole in the top or side of a box for the toddler to poke through items. Give her small toys such as blocks, toy cars, and balls to drop in her box.
- B. Cut a round hole just larger than the diameter of a clothespin in the lid of a coffee can. Let the child poke the clothespins through the hole in the lid. The child can peel the lid off, dump out the clothespins, put the lid back on (perhaps with your help), and repeat the process.
- C. Use this type of container to store crayons. Children love putting them away.

