



Social and Emotional Development Activity for 54 to 60 Months

Making a Train

Group projects lend themselves to providing young children with the opportunity to share and work together toward an end goal.

Materials:

- Cardboard boxes
- Paint
- Crayons
- Markers

What to do:

1. Have several cardboard boxes for the child and her playmates to make a train together.
2. Have the children decorate the boxes and then put them together like a train (or any other object that might be interesting to them).
3. Have limited supplies available to support children in sharing the materials as they make the train together.
4. Talk about sharing while the children are building and decorating the train. Provide specific comments or acknowledgement when children share. Ask them how it makes them feel when they have to wait to use the object that they want. Ask them to list things they can do while they wait their turn and share the materials (work on another part of the box, use crayons while they wait for markers, make streamers for the train).
5. Have the children fill the train with stuffed animals and ride them around the room.

