

Enhance Your Dramatic Play Area:
PROP BOXES:

- **Zoo:** stuffed animals; old cameras; cardboard box cages; plastic animals; plastic strawberry containers; zoo brochures; maps; sunglasses; visors; clean sunscreen containers; clean, empty water bottles
- **Flower Shop:** silk flowers; plastic water cans; plastic vases; cash register; play money; tissue paper; apron; gardening gloves; cards; envelopes; pens; markers; potting soil and plastic plant buckets; trowels; seed packets, flower magazines
- **Camp Site:** blocks or rocks for fireplace ring; rolled up newspaper painted brown for logs; red, orange, yellow tissue paper for flames; potato sacks or sleeping bags; backpacks; canteens; binoculars; cooler; plastic food; blue sheet for water; dowel, string and magnet fishing poles; paper and paper clip fish; mini tent or sheet for tent
- **Photo Studio:** cameras; empty photo containers; photo albums; pictures; big sheets of roll paper; phone; props for backgrounds for shoots; appointment book; pencils; calendar; paper
- **Pet Store:** stuffed dogs, cats, birds; food dishes; empty, clean food containers; leashes; tennis balls; dog toys; cash register; play money; grooming supplies
- **Hula:** flower leis; grass skirts; Hawaiian music; limbo stick; Hawaiian shirts
- **Three Bears:** path to follow made of roll paper or an old sheet on the floor; any objects you can find in three different sizes(bowls, chairs, cups, etc.); stuffed bears
- **Wrapping Paper Center:** clean, empty boxes of all shapes and sizes; tape; children's scissors; old wrapping paper; old gift tags or paper scraps; pencils; pens; markers; old bows and ribbons
- **Space Station:** Cardboard appliance box wrapped in aluminum foil (space shuttle); back packs spray painted silver; rocks for moon rocks; plastic 2 liter soda bottles (oxygen tanks); old walkie-talkies or phones for communicating with NASA; glow in the dark stars; globe; clean, empty Tang containers; moon boots; flashlights; gardening gloves

Enhance Your Dramatic Play Area:
WOLF SUIT:

To make the wolf suit:

Materials:

- A pair of “feety” pajamas
- An old unmatched sock
- Newspaper, cotton batting
- Sewing needle and thread
- Adult scissors
- Velcro (optional)

Procedure:

1. Stuff old sock with cotton batting or newspaper.
2. Sew sock shut with needle and thread.
3. Securely sew sock onto back of “feety” pajamas to make the tail.

To make the wolf ears:

Materials:

- Plastic headband
- Felt
- Glue gun and glue sticks
- Pipe cleaners
- Adult scissors

Procedure:

1. Bend pipe cleaner in half so that it looks like a letter “v”.
2. Cut felt to size needed for ear.
3. Run a bead of hot glue along one side of the pipe cleaner at the pointed end and adhere pipe cleaner to felt.
4. Run another bead of hot glue along the opposite side of the pipe cleaner and adhere second piece of felt on top making a felt and pipe cleaner sandwich.
5. Trim excess felt from ear with scissors.
6. Attach ear to headband by wrapping ends of pipe cleaner around headband.
7. Repeat process to make second ear.

Enhance Your Cooking Area:

MONSTER FACES: Be aware of any food allergies and choking hazards

- Pizzas (Whole pizza or individuals on English Muffins) with pepperoni eyes, mushroom ears and noses, pepper teeth
- English Muffins for breakfast or snack: spread cream cheese on toasted English Muffins, use various edible things for facial features (cheerio eyes, raisin noses, alfalfa sprout hair; etc.)

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Enhance Your Music and Movement Area:

Make INSTRUMENTS for Wild Rumpus: [Warning: Small parts may pose a choking hazard]

- Drum sticks (Place a ball of cotton batting or several cotton balls in the center of a cloth or felt scrap square. Place an unsharpened pencil's writing end into the ball of cotton. Gather the material around the body of the pencil and rubber band into place. (You can add some glue to secure it if you like.)
- Paper towel roll rhythm sticks (Have children color, paint or decorate clean, paper towel tubes and hit together to make music.)
- Cardboard box and rubber band guitar (Find a sturdy cardboard box that won't collapse under rubber bands. Have children decorate outside of cardboard box with markers, crayons, paint, etc. Cut a hole in the shape of a circle in one of the solid sides. Tape the flaps closed. Put rubber bands around the box so that they bridge the circular hole. Secure the rubber bands on the back of the box [the side without the hole] with tape. Strum and have fun.)
- Use empty upside-down cardboard boxes and empty clean coffee cans as drums.
- Paper plate tambourines (Staple two plates together and fill with beans, beads, etc.; shake and make music. Let the children decorate the paper plates with markers or crayons before stapling; add ribbons or crepe paper streamers for added effect.)
- Sandpaper blocks (Glue pieces of sandpaper to sanded scraps of wood and rub together.)
- Film canister shakers (Fill clean, empty film canisters with rice, beans, beads, etc. Make sure to secure the lid with glue or tape. Shake and enjoy.)

Warning: Remember, when making paper plate tambourines and film canister shakers the contents that you use to make the sounds (beans, beads, pasta, etc.) may be a choking hazard to small children. Always be sure to secure the lids or other openings with glue or tape.

Use your instruments to have a Monster Parade.

Alternative Activity:

Play "Monster Freeze." Begin by talking about the different ways that monsters move. Then put the movements to music. Whenever the music stops have the monsters freeze.

Enhance Your Math and Manipulatives Area:

GAMES:

- **Monster Match:** Have children draw monsters on paper and color them; when finished cut monsters into 3 pieces (head, torso and feet) and mix them all up. Put all pieces face up on table and have children find their own monster pieces and put them back together. Then have them find three other pieces that match and put someone else's monster together. **Variation:** Just have the children choose three pieces at random from 3 piles (a head pile, a torso pile, and a leg pile) to create an entirely new monster. **More Difficult Variation:** Only cut the monsters into two pieces at the torso and have them turn cards over and make matches like Memory.
- **Monster Puzzles:** Have children paint a monster onto a piece of corrugated cardboard, leaving an unpainted border around the monster. Let dry. Cut out the monster along the painted outline. Glue the remaining border on top of another piece of corrugated cardboard. Let dry. Cut monster into random pieces and reassemble monster into puzzle board made from border and 2nd sheet of cardboard.

Enhance Your Science Area:
SHADOW BOX:

To construct your Shadow Box you will need:

Materials:

- A large cardboard box
- A flat sheet
- Adult scissors
- Duck tape
- Desk lamp
- Poster board/ Card stock or construction paper
- Markers
- Children's scissors
- Wooden dowels or craft sticks

Procedure:

1. Tuck all of the flaps into both ends of the cardboard box to help make it sturdier. Secure them inside the box with duck tape.
2. Lay the flat sheet out on the floor and put the box, open end down in the center of it. Measure out a foot from each of the sides and cut the extra material off with scissors.
3. Pull the sheet up along the outside sides of the box and then duck tape it on all sides.
4. Set the cardboard box aside on one of its solid sides on the floor.
5. Have the children draw monsters onto cardstock, poster board or construction paper and cut them out.
6. Tape a wooden dowel or craft stick to the back of each monster.

To use:

1. Place the box on the floor in a dimly lit area.
2. Set up a desk lamp outside the box approximately 2-3 feet from the box (this distance may need to be adjusted depending on the size of the lamp or strength of the bulb), so that the light shines on the sheet.
3. Have the children take turns sitting between the desk lamp (be careful, the lamp can get hot) and the box, putting their puppet in front of the light. Have them sit off to the sides of the box so they are not blocking the light source. A shadow will be cast on the

sheet. Have the rest of the group sit at the open end of the box to enjoy the shadow show being performed inside the box.

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