



Sensory Mystery Box

Episode 36

Introduction

Every child loves a good mystery—which is why this sensory box is a great DIY craft to keep your kiddos guessing and having fun. You can put a variety of objects into the box, or just one, and change things up based on the season or special events. Plus, this is a simple project that kids can easily participate in, adding their own decorations to the box!



Supplies

- Tissue box
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Markers (optional)
- Found objects for inside the box
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Decorations (optional)



Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

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Instructions

1. Trace and cut paper: Trace the outline of all sides of the tissue box onto construction or scrapbook paper. Then cut out pieces.
2. Attach paper to box: Glue or tape cut pieces of paper onto the tissue box. Trim excess paper where needed.
3. (Optional) Decorate your box: Use markers and whatever else you might have around to decorate the outside of the box. As with the other steps, involve your child as much as possible to make the box their own.
4. Pick items for inside: When choosing items to go inside the box, think of what your child might be able to recognize just by feel alone. Try a few familiar items, then move on to more unique choices! You can put items in one at a time, or have several inside to choose from.

How to Use Your Sensory Mystery Box

Children often learn more when they involve multiple senses in the process—with this mystery sensory box, children use their sense of touch to determine objects in the box. When playing, ask them what the object feels like. Is it soft? Spikey? Thin? Have them guess what the object might be BEFORE they pull it out of the box. They might learn more by guessing incorrectly and learning what the objects have in common while still being different. You can also use the mystery box as a storytelling tool—older children can pull items out of the box one at a time, using narrative skills to make up a story as they go along.



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