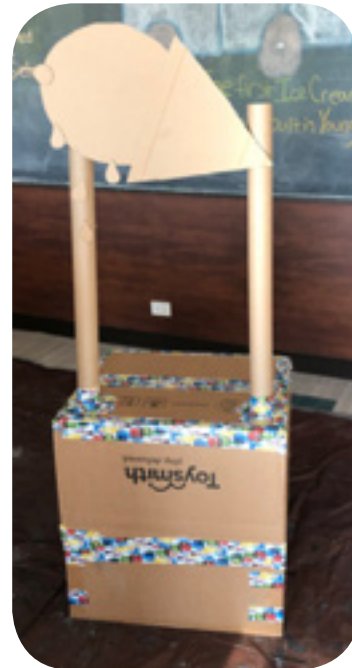




Cardboard Construction:

To all of those who are joining us from our story Not a Box by Antoinette Portis, Hello! To all just joining us now Hello! Today we are going to use the boxes you have at home to create something new. There are a few examples here, but get creative for your boxes at home!

At the Children's Museum of Cleveland we like to recycle any box we can in any way we can. We have made some into, castles, a zoo, and even an ice cream stand. Cardboard is also one of our biggest construction item in our tinker area. Below there are some images of what we have done at the museum.

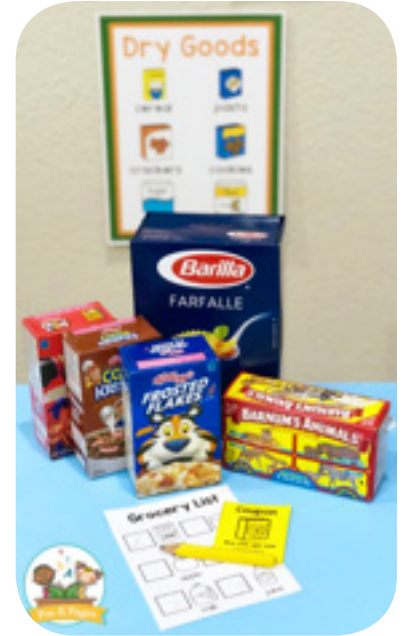




What to Do:

Now that you have seen what we have done I hope your creativity is flowing! An easy way to use cardboard boxes is in dramatic play. Keep your cereal, butter, mac and cheese, and cake mix boxes and add them to your child's play room. Play grocery store and have them be the check out person, or flip the roles and have the child be the shopper.

Pretend play helps children work through vital cognitive learning target. Your child reenacting a sequence of events, like shopping at a store, is enabling your child to develop skills and processes that support learning and reasoning across domains.



Another easy thing to do with a box is open it up and create a road system. Kids love playing with cars, so let's help them create a road map. All that you'll need is a box, and a marker. You can have your kids create the road with you, or you can make a more detailed map to help them learn their address and their surroundings. Use building blocks and toys from around the house to create the buildings.



For older kids, let's play golf! This is a great rainy day activity. All you need is a box, some markers, scissors, and golf balls or ping pong balls. You can add a towel or blanket as a bumper for younger kids.

Create different size holes for your golf balls using scissors. Then using your markers and make each hole a different color and point value. To make it more educational, have your kids do the math to see who wins!

