



Fit me together...

Junk Modelling provides lots of learning provocations.



The wonderful thing about junk modelling is that children are able to create 3D sculptures by using mainly an array or assorted objects which are easily found around the home.

It is important to allow plenty of space for your child to create and make sure you have somewhere to store your creation- children often return to add a few more pieces.

It is important that you (Adult) is there to **support and supervise** as often they can become frustrated, for example if they cannot make something stick or fit together the way they like- they **may require your guiding hand**.

There is absolutely NO RIGHT OR WRONGS with this- imagination and creativity is key. Just have fun playing and fitting the items together.

What can your child learn from this type of play?

Physical Benefits: Children will gain skills, cutting, gluing and using equipment. Hand-eye co-ordination and fine manipulative skills will be developed by handling the collections of objects as well as using tools and resources to fit items together (eg scissors, glue)

Mathematical & Cognitive Benefits: Children will be working with 3D shapes. Problem solving skills will be developed as children come across difficulties in the making of their ideas. From handling materials and perhaps cutting items to fit, children will develop the concept of size and shape. By checking to find if something will fit, they will also begin to explore and understand measurement and comparison. If the materials/collections provided are varied they will also begin to explore texture and each individual items properties.

Language Benefits: This is a great activity for enriching children's language provocations. Children will be prompted into asking for help as well as explaining their thoughts and ideas. Children may also talk about and follow simple step by step instructions. Language associated with spatial awareness as well as problem solving is also likely to be used.

Specific language associated with this type of play may also be used.

Social and Emotional Benefits: Children are able to express imagination and creativity. Share in decision making as well as sharing their experiences with others.

How to enhance and extend play and learning experiences:

- *go on a nature walk and collect natural items (acorns, leaves, flowers, sticks)
- *Introduce tools (rulers, scissors etc...)
- *mark making equipment- pencils, crayons, paint, paper etc...

Laura believes:



"I believe it is important for children to be able to explore size, texture and shapes is a variety of forms including 2D and 3D forms.

Junk modelling for me is an ideal activity for families to engage with at home as the collections of items used through this type of play is FREE as they are the items you often put in the bin.

It is vital however you provide glue or masking tape for the activity to be successful."

