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Activity Name: Create a Tactile Map

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Tactile maps are a great way to create some fun memories while learning about directional words, exploring new textures found in our neighborhood and

a) Materials:

- Piece of paper or construction paper
- Cardboard box
- Glue
- Markers/Crayons/Pens
- Items found in your neighborhood to add to map
- Small bag to hold your found items

b) Directions:

- Take a walk around the block, neighborhood or even your own backyard!
- Collect items such as sticks, pinecones, sand, rocks, flowers that you find on your walk and make a note about where you found the item (ex. "This stick was from an old apple tree on our street corner!").
- Make a map! When you get home, draw the route that you walked and draw pictures indicating the places you found items. I glued my map paper to a piece of cardboard so that it is easier to carry around and hold the found items in place.
- You might want to use some Elmer's Glue or puffy paint to give texture to the things you drew and the lines on the map so that your child can follow either visually or with their hands.
- Glue your items to your map!
- Talk about the route you walked together and the items you found. Make sure to talk about their properties (ex. "The pinecones are hard and scratchy")
- Review your completed map before your next walk and talk about what you might see on today's walk!

c) Target Areas: Sensory Efficiency, O&M, Fine Motor, Compensatory Skills, Self-Determination

