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Activity Name: Creating a Mini Play Area

Materials Needed:

- Laundry Basket
- Zip ties (cable ties) or other fastener
- Household objects (sponges, wrapping paper, kitchen utensils, toys, etc.)
- Towel

Description:

- Begin by choosing fun toys and interesting objects to attach to your mini play area. Try to be creative in your selections.
- Using cable ties, secure your toys and items to the inside of your basket. be sure to trim the long ends off the cable ties.
- You're done! Now, just as with a large play area, your baby has a small, well-defined space to play in. The toys in the mini play area will always be located in the same places, so your baby will be comfortable and learn about object permanence. Plus, the mini play area is a great way for your baby to entertain himself while you make dinner or do the dishes!
- If your baby is too young to sit up on his own, you can still make a fun mini play area for him. Lay a blanket on the bottom of the laundry basket and attach toys to the side. You can also string toys from PVC pipe then lay the pipe across the top of the basket after you've placed the baby inside. Now they can feel the toys suspended above them!

This activity creates a fun and safe learning space for your child. It is beneficial for children with visual impairments to have a small and secure learning area. They may be more likely to explore objects and textures when they are in a small, secure space. Your child can begin to learn where their favorite objects are in the basket. You can also play in/out games, throwing toys in and out of the basket, or push the basket around the house for a fun "driving" game.

This activity was found on the Wonder Baby website

(<http://www.wonderbaby.org/articles/make-your-own-mini-play-area>).