

Peek-a-Boo Box

Primary Objectives

2a. Forms relationships with adults

Why It's Important

Playing peek-a-boo with your child allows her to watch you momentarily disappear and then reappear. It also provides a great opportunity for your child to mirror your expression of feelings—she smiles and laughs when you reappear because you are smiling.

Materials

Scissors; cardboard box

What You Do

1. Remove the top flaps from the cardboard box so there are only five sides to the box (four sides plus the bottom).
2. Invite your child to participate in this activity. Sit on the floor and seat her on your lap or right in front of you.
3. Lower the box slowly over your head until it covers your face. Ask, *Where is [Elsie]? I can't see her!*
4. Remove the box from your head, smile, and say, *Peek-a-boo!*
5. Observe your child's reaction to your reappearance. Pay attention to whether or not she mirrors your happy expression.
6. You can make this activity more challenging by making different facial expressions each time you reappear. Observe your child's reactions to your expressions. Make sure to return to the happy expression so your child can end the game joyfully.
7. Once your child is mobile, encourage her to use the peek-a-boo box to crawl under and then reappear.