

Big Box Basketball

Primary Objectives

6. Demonstrates gross-motor manipulative skills

Why It's Important

Children at this stage of development find comfort in being with familiar people. Playing games with you helps your child develop secure relationships. This game also helps him develop motor skills that he can apply to other activities.

Materials

Large cardboard box; soft balls

What You Do

1. Fold down the flaps on the top of the box or cut them off completely. Place the cardboard box in the center of an open space. Place the balls around the box. Invite your child to come and play.
2. Demonstrate to your child how to place a ball in the box. Describe what you are doing.
3. Invite your child to place a ball in the box. Encourage him by using supportive words. *You put the big blue ball in the box.*
4. Once all of the balls are inside the box, take the balls out and repeat the activity. Try tossing the balls from different places around the box.
5. Use your child's name frequently during the game. Repeat common vocabulary, such as *in*, *out*, *box*, and *ball*.
6. You can extend the activity by turning the box on its side and encouraging your child to roll a ball into the box. Encourage him to try new ways of getting the balls into the box.