Summer Holiday Activity Calendar Week Two - Dens and Houses

10 Minutes Together — Cardboard rules! — Week 2

Cardboard City!

If you or a friend is lucky enough to have a new appliance then keep the box! You can make a fantastic den or house with it, using a knife to carefully cut windows (and if you are really creative you can just cut three sides of the window and make them open and close.

It's not really dens, but this video is amazing and will inspire your child to make all sorts using your cardboard recycling!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=faIFNkdq96U
or search for Cain's Arcade

10 Minutes Together — Hideout in the woods — Week 2

If You Go Down in The Woods Today....

A great activity is to build a den in the woods using branches and sticks! You really can't go wrong. There are some great tips at https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/50-things/no.-4-build-a-den
Having a hideout is a brilliant thing. If you can make one in your garden, then brilliant, but first, try making one in the woods - something about it being temporary is lovely and you get to practise all your techniques in the woods.
When you're done, you could make a forest dinner to share with flowers and leaves to eat and a flat stone for a plate and find some log furniture to sit on together!

10 Minutes Together — Camping at home! — Week 2

Spend the night under canvas...

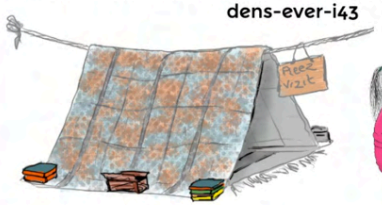
If you have a tent or can borrow one for the night then you could sleep outside with your kids as a special home camping experience! It has all the fun of camping, but you can come inside for a wee and a midnight feast or if you get cold!

There is nothing like sleeping outside, but the beautiful cosiness of being able to go inside if you get uncomfortable is wonderful - having said that, the sounds and smells of a campsite, the showers, having to put your wellies on to go to the loos, the smell of calour gas and the hiss of it cooking your beans for tea is brilliant - if you can go away even for a night camping, then it's a totally brilliant experience they'll love and remember for a long time.

10 Minutes Together — Indoors or outdoors — Week 2

Indoors dens for rainy days

Dens don't have to be outdoors! You can make a brilliant hide out at home, so if it's raining, get the blankets out, visit this website, and get creating!
https://www.noaandnani.co.uk/den-building-ideas-for-the-best-dens-ever-i43



Making a quiet space away from the normal world is really valuable for many children. The chance to feel cosy and protected but adventurous in your play is something a lot of us loved as kids - that's why we all remember making dens under the table. or with the clothes airer when we were little. In a world of screens, imaginative play like this is hugely valuable, so get in touch with your inner child and get in there too!

10 Minutes Together — Cardboard Artists — Week 2

Shoulder strengthening can be fun!

Drawing on cardboard is a really rewarding sensation. Pen doesn't soak into it like it does paper, and having large areas is great. Plus, lying on your stomach and drawing strengthens shoulder muscles and gets them ready for writing.
Take some cardboard boxes and open them out flat. You can give your child the following to try:
paint on them, use pens, pencil crayons, water, anything that makes a mark.
You can tape card to the underneath of a table so your kids can lie on the floor and draw above them.
You can tape card onto a wall and your child can paint standing up.
Join lots of boxes together with tape and draw a map on it for dinosaurs or cars, or dragons, or fairies, or horses!

10 Minutes Together — Let's make a Model Village... — Week 2

Box Modelling Magic

Take some food cartons and open them out, turn them inside out and stick back together. Use masking tape to stick them, or even better, a glue gun. This makes it so that they can be painted or drawn on more easily and it really makes a difference to the quality of the models children make. (If you ever do a batch of these for your child's class, then you would be their favourite person in the world!)

Make some houses or buildings - can they make their own house? Go outside to look at it - or look at some photos. How many windows? Look at all the details from the bricks to the drain pipes and the front door. Look at the number on the door and try to make the model as realistic as possible. Noticing these details will really help them engage and invest in it. Go for a walk up and down the streets near where you live and talk about the houses you see. You can point out things like terraced houses, semi-detached, detached and so on.

All materials ©Blossom. All rights reserved. www.blossomwithus.co.uk