

STEM

starts now

Button Creatures

Recommended Age: 42-47 Months

STEM concepts: Science (physical science), Technology (simple tools), Engineering (engineering), Math (number sense and operation, shapes and spatial relationships)

Materials: buttons of different shapes and colors, card board, glue expanding the activity requires pipe cleaners and string

What to do: Lay a collection of buttons out on the table. Have your child explore and discover the different properties of the buttons. What is alike? What is different? On a piece of cardboard begin pushing the buttons together or on top of each other to create new shapes. Challenge your child to make a favorite animal or a self portrait out of buttons. Build a sky scraper or house.

Language and Communication: Talk about the different colors, shapes and sizes. Count the amount of buttons with 2 holes or 4 holes. Switch adding and taking away buttons. Challenge your child to stack the buttons as high as they can go and talk about different lengths. Encourage them to make their best picture of an animal or tower. Talk with them about which buttons stack better or which ones fit together better. Help them realize that there is a reason or method to their design.

Expand the Activity: Using pipecleaners and string make 3-d designs. Make a doll or houses that stand up with buttons.

