



## CONSTRUCTION SITE

### Materials you need:

*Pick and choose from materials below or modify to include what you already have. There is no need to try and use everything in the list!*

- Offcuts of wood, pallets
- Loose parts like pipes, tubing, bricks
- A tub of 'slurry mix' – sand or dirt and water mixed together to hold bricks and planks etc together.
- Gravel/rocks/pebbles
- Trucks, wagons, cars etc
- Real or dramatic play tools like hammers, screwdrivers, toolboxes.
- Climbing frames without planks to use as saw horses.
- Buckets, pots, tubs, trays.
- Construction signs or pictures on the fence or wall.
- Hi vis dress ups, hardhats, toolbelts.

### Setup for play:

- This activity is a fun yet simple way to incorporate dramatic play opportunities outdoors – if you can just leave it setup for the week.
- Choose an area of the yard and arrange your chosen materials to resemble a construction site before the children arrive. It doesn't need to look pretty – just inviting!
- Encourage the children to use the materials and props to construct, build and create however they want to. If you can leave some of the site setup they will be able to continually extend on their play and ideas throughout the week.

# INVITING THE IMAGINATION IN - ACTIVITY GUIDE 80

## What are they learning with this activity?

As the children begin to use the construction materials and props to build and imagine with they are learning to:

- Use their sense of touch, sight and smell to make choices and create
- Use descriptive language and become independent communicators
- Expand their vocabulary by learning the names of different types of tools
- Work together in a group with others as well as independently on a project
- Explore simple scientific concepts through play and hands on investigation
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Coordinate and strengthen their large muscles
- Manipulate equipment and real-life tools with increasing competence
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Use their play to imagine and explore ideas
- Create with different mediums and textures
- Make decisions about the materials they want to use and what works best.
- Problem solve and make decisions to meet their needs
- Better understand the world around them and specific community roles.

## Extending the play:

- Watch videos or look at pictures of real life construction sites.
- Talk a walk together and see if you can find any type of construction materials or vehicles.
- Use the tools or other materials to create sequences and patterns in a line on the ground – ask the children to find the item that would come next in the pattern.

