



DIY BIG KERPLUNK GAME

Materials you need:

- 2 large bricks or wood stumps – they just need to be an even surface when lying horizontally.
- Wire mesh or plastic garden lattice – size will depend on how big you want to make your tube (see picture below).
- Cable ties or thin wire for tying
- 1 packet of bamboo garden stakes or sticks you collect that will fit through the mesh holes.
- Bag of coloured ball pit balls

Setup for play:

- Wrap the mesh or lattice around to form a tube shape – secure ends that meet with cable ties or a little wire.
- Place the mesh tub on top of the bricks so it balances just off the ground. If you want the tube to hold up to lots of active play you can tie it to a round washing basket that has been turned upside down and a hole cut in the top for the balls to flow into. This will help to make it a little more stable.
- Poke sticks through the holes in crossway fashion just like the smaller version of the game, pour your balls in the top then it's time to play!
- Each player takes a turn to try and remove a stick without any balls falling!

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What are they learning with this activity?

As the children play the game they are learning to:

- Persist even when they find a task difficult
- Use their large muscle strength to balance, pull, bend and lift
- Listen to and follow directions
- Use coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Develop body awareness and a sense of self
- Challenge emerging gross motor skills
- Recognise and name colours
- Count and group

Extending the play:

- See if the children can remove sticks to MAKE certain colour balls fall this time.
- Ask what else they could make with the bamboo sticks if you added some rope and material.

