



PEBBLE SCUPLTURES

Materials you need:

- Collection of smooth pebbles with flat tops (get bags cheaply in Bunnings & \$2 shops or go on a walk to collect together outside)
- Playdough (You might need a double batch if you have a large group)
- Recycled ice cream lids, trays or similar as a base to build on for each child to take home.

Setup for play:

- This one is so simple – all you need to do is hand out the lids and trays so everyone gets one then show the children how to begin creating a pebble sculpture by choosing their pebble and squishing a little playdough between each stone so they can build.
- For older children who have more developed fine motor control try using blu tack instead of playdough!
- A sculpture might go up or it might be created flat on the surface....stand back and let them problem solve to make their own creation work the way they want it to.

What are they learning with this activity?

As they bring the pebbles and playdough together to form a sculpture they are learning to:

- Use descriptive language and become independent communicators
- Experiment with cause and effect
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Manipulate objects to explore motion, cause and effect
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Use their senses to explore and choose natural materials
- Express themselves creatively

CREATIVE & SENSORY PLAY - ACTIVITY GUIDE 8

- Problem solve and make decisions
- Persist even when they find the task difficult
- Create with different mediums and textures

Extending the play:

- For a more permanent sculpture you could provide a little watered down PVA glue in squeeze bottles and use in place of the playdough.
- Replace the pebbles with Jenga blocks or similar, add more playdough and see what they can create together as a group on a larger scale.
- Add some coloured lengths of wool to the pebbles and show children how to wrap the stones with the wool to create colourful patterns.

