THE "NON-SHOPPING" LIST

You don't need toys to play!

In fact, found, recycled and repurposed materials are great for play, because you're free to mash, tear and glue them as much as you like. Playworkers call them loose parts, we just call it stuff! These great materials are also free, and often found as locally as the back of your own closet. Take a look at what you would otherwise throw away, and try to imagine what else it could become.

Below are a list of the kinds of things that are great for play, but anything that's safe, clean and open to being played with can work.

Check your recycling box for:

- Cardboard boxes and tubes
- Paper bags
- Plastic bottles

Look in your cupboards and kitchen drawers:

- Cotton balls
- String and yarn
- Glue and tape
- Old keys
- Mixing bowls
- Wooden spoons
- Old bedsheets and towels

Go check out the park! You might find:

- Acorns, branches and leaves

And treasure the weird and wonderful:

- Bright fabric
- Donated tires
- Old hats
- Giant bottle gaps
- Old computer keyboards

Give some thought to how these objects might fit together. For example, if you have a way to hang up string, clothespins and pieces of fabric offer a quick way for children to create dens. If you bring cardboard boxes, don't forget something that an adult can use to cut spy holes and doors!

You can also invite your friends, and ask them to bring their own junk, "potluck" style. Or go outside and scavenge together. It's amazing what you can find at the park, or get in donations from local businesses - like wooden crates and coffee stirrers!

Pop-Up Resource Pack
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Anna Housley Juster, Suzanna Law, Sharon Unis, and
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Logo Illustration by Jonathan Mills