

#### **Making huts**

You'll need: Blankets, chairs, couches, cushions, boxes and sheets

- Find a space indoors safe and roomy enough to make a hut, like between two couches or chairs.
- 2. Spread a sheet as the ceiling, and put a blanket on the floor.
- Decorate with boxes or cushions and toys and chill out or play an imaginary game.

#### **Torch fun**

You'll need: One torch, or two for extra fun

- Wait for it to become dark and pull the curtains.
- Play with shadows using objects in front of the torch to help tamariki find out how light works.
- 3. Wiggle fingers and shape hands into shadows.

**Extra:** Use coloured cellophane taped over the torch to add more fun, by making colours appear on the wall.

# Indoor play for a wet day

**You'll need:** Household items like balloons or empty plastic bottles

- Make a paper ball out of scrunched up newspaper and a bit of tape.
- Play balloon hockey down the hallway and use soft cardboard/or taped-up newspaper bats.
- Set up some skittles made up of empty plastic bottles or boxes and use the ball and bats to play a game.

### **Baking**

**You'll need:** A recipe, ingredients, and equipment

- Choose a simple recipe, gather ingredients and tell your child what each one is as you lay them out in the kitchen.
- Follow the method and get your child to help! Help them add ingredients, measure and stir the mixture.
- If your oven has a window and a light, show them what is happening as your treats bake!

## Make some tasty tiny toasties

You'll need: A muffin tin, 12 slices of wholemeal bread (crusts removed), your favourite fillings and some grated cheese.

- 1. Preheat your oven to 180°C, grease your tin and press in your bread slices.
- 2. Evenly spoon in your favourite fillings:
  - Spag-tom nom nom: Mix a chopped tomato and a can of spaghetti.
  - Eggy-licious: Beat 2 eggs with 1/2 a cup of milk, then add cooked veggies and maybe some ham.
  - Mince or beans: What a yummy way to use your leftovers!
- 3. Top with grated cheese then bake for 15 minutes.

Tip: Cool for a few minutes before serving.

# Fun with milk bottle tops

You'll need: Lots of milk bottle tops, an icecream container, a bowl and tongs or a little picture/photo

- Little ones play posty.
   Cut a hole in an ice-cream lid then "post" your milk bottle tops through it. The smaller the space the harder it will be!
- Kindy kids play nip-nip crabs.
  Put your milk bottle tops in a bowl then use kitchen tongs to "nip" them out one by one.
  Time yourself!
- 3. Big kids make a game piece. Use a milk bottle top to draw a circle on a picture or photo. Cut it out and glue it into your bottle top. Yay – no more forgetting which piece is yours!

### Doing things together at home

**You'll need:** to bring tamariki on an errand with you!

- Ask your child to pass pegs to you when you hang up the washing, or match socks together when they are dry.
- Put away toys together. 'I'll pick up the blue things and put them away. What colour would you like to pick up? Then you can choose a story for us.'
- 3. Help set the table for the family meal or cook or bake together.
- 4. Help with sweeping with their own small broom or a brush and shovel.

### **Sock puppet**

**You'll need:** A sock and craft bits and pieces if you have them.

You could use:

- Use felt tips to draw eyes, a nose and a mouth on light coloured socks. Stitch them on if socks are dark ones.
- Wool can be glued on or stitched in for hair and/or whiskers.
- Scraps of fabric can be wrapped around as scarves, cloaks and skirts for the puppets.
- Use the puppets to act out family activities (shopping, visiting and going to the park) and/or stories you have shared.

### **Treasure box**

**You'll need:** an empty container like a shoe box, craft bits and pieces

- Start a collection of treasures for their baby and keep it in a treasure box.
- Create something beautiful and meaningful that can be shared with baby when they're older
- 3. Think about what they want to give baby and what they wish for baby.