

## **Hours of Fun from Household Items**

### **Creating Play Invitations**

Today I wanted to offer something different to explore. I wandered around the house looking for inspiration. I have a lot of wooden pieces so, I focused on gathering all wooden items I thought would trigger interest. I looked for a variety of shapes, shades, height, and textures. I arranged them on a couple of placemats that helped to make the shape and colours stand out. I decided that, yes, this just might peak the curiosity of a wee one, and it did.

We listened to the sounds each piece made when banged on the floor or together. We touched each surface carefully and slowly. We discovered that some pieces rolled and some did not. We looked at the pieces for a long time before choosing one to poke, turn over and taste. When I say we, I mean I quietly observed as this 9 month old performed his experiments on these new items in his world.

It is a fun challenge for me to create new play “invitations”. I can always find lots of items around the house that when gathered together and arranged in a pleasant way, will keep a youngster engaged in exploration for a long time. The possibilities are endless. Give it a try and let us know what happens.

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# Wood



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