

The New York Public Library

A Day of Play

Peek-A-Boo Boxes

Play with your baby – even from birth, babies are playing. Babies will enjoy the surprise discovery of colorful scarves hiding in the box. Over time, playing peek-a-boo helps babies make the connection between their actions and what is happening around them.

MATERIALS:

- An empty tissue box or any box with a small opening.
- Washcloths, socks, mittens, soft toys or small scarves

HOW TO PLAY:

Stuff colorful scarves, socks, or washcloths into an empty tissue box.

Let your child reach in and pull out an item. As your child empties and fills the box, count how many scarves fit inside.

Once all the items are pulled out, have fun stuffing each item back in.

Safety tip: Always supervise babies during play.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

- Before your child reaches in the box, ask, “What do you think is in the box?” This is great to ask even if your child is not yet verbal.
- Narrate you or your child’s actions. “Look, I pulled out the GREEN scarf” Or “You’re waving the RED scarf”
- Ask, “What else can we put inside?” Encourage your child to experiment with adding objects to the box.

