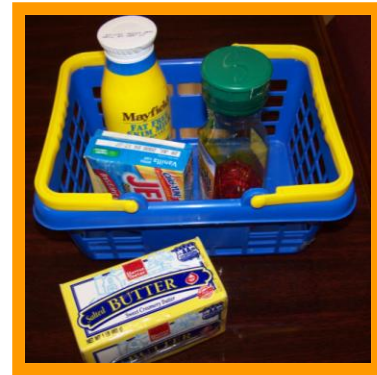


Appropriate for :  
Young Toddlers and Older Toddlers.

## Grocery Store



### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Collect a variety of empty food boxes and containers.
- Health Note: Do not use egg cartons or any container that contained meat.
- Newspaper, clear packing tape
- Paper grocery sacks or canvas bags
- Optional: shopping carts or baskets

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Fill empty boxes with crumpled newspaper.
- Seal and cover with clear packing tape.
- Add to the dramatic play area; store on a shelf accessible to children.

### What the adult can do to support learning and development in these domains:

- Allow children to explore materials. Describe what they are doing.
- Provide a variety of paper and cloth bags for filling and dumping food items.
- Encourage children to work together to “bag groceries” or “stock shelves”.
- Talk with the children about the foods and point out words and letters on the containers.
- Model the use of reading labels to make choices while (pretend) shopping.

### Examples of language that can be used between caregiver and child:

- “I need some butter. Can you please put it in my shopping bag?”
- “I like macaroni and cheese (pick up box, read label). What kind of food do you like?”
- “Matt has 3 cartons of milk. Look! Milk and Matt both begin with the letter M.”

This activity highlights support for the following *NCFELD* domain:

Cognitive Development	Approaches to Play & Learning	Language Development & Communication	Emotional and Social Development	Health & Physical Development
-----------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------