



STORY TIME

NOT A BOX RESOURCES

Story Time Description

Do you remember the book *Not a Stick*? If you enjoyed it then you'll enjoy *Not a Box*. The author, Antoinette Portis, captures the imagination of children of all ages with *Not a Box*. This fun and clever book tells the story of a rabbit who is asked what he's doing with his box. Gather all the boxes you can find and create a not, not a box. Remember a box is never just a box!

Children's Picture Books That Promote Creativity and Imaginary Play

- *Sitting in My Box* by Dee Lillegard
- *The Box Story* by Kenneth Lamug
- *What to Do with a Box* by Jane Yolen
- *When This Box is Full* by Patricia Lilly
- *This is Our House* by Michael Rosen
- *Clancy and Millie and the Very Fine House* by Libby Gleeson
- *Box* by Min Flyte
- *Boxitects* by Kim Smith
- *A Box Can Be Many Things* by Dana Rau
- *Little Elmo's Toy Box* by Sesame Street
- *The Birthday Box* by Leslie Patricelli
- *My Book Box* by Will Hillenbrand
- *Henry's Box* by Angela McAllister
- *Perfect Square* by Michael Hall
- *The Button Box* by Margaret Reid
- *Cristina Katerina and the Box* by Patricia Gauch
- *Not a Stick* by Antoinette Portis
- *A Stick is an Excellent Thing: Poems Celebrating Outdoor Play* by Marilyn Singer
- *Sticks* by Diane Alber
- *Scribble Stone* by Diane Alber
- *Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building* by Christy Hale
- *Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry
- *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler
- *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert
- *A Leaf Can Be...* by Laura Purdie Salas

**LEWIS
GINTER**
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

1800 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228
804.262.9887
lewisginter.org

- *A Rock Can Be...* by Laura Purdie Salas
- *One Piece of String* by Marthe Jocelyn
- *Just How Long Can a String Be?* by Keith Baker
- *Extra Yarn* by Mac Barnett
- *The Squiggle* by Carole Lexa Schaefer
- *Chloe* by Peter McCarty
- *No One Can Play* by Mercer Mayer
- *Chalk* by Bill Thomson
- *Abiyoyo* by Peet Seeger
- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats

Other Useful Resources

- Watch Antoinette Portis on Imagination - YouTube video
- www.antonetteportis.com
- Watch Not a Stick book recommendation and activities – YouTube
- Watch Not a Box Design Challenge presented by a group of pre-kindergartners from Powhatan School - YouTube
- www.tinkergarten.com/activities/great-wall Great activity about building a wall using sticks, twigs, and dowels
- www.cainesarcade.com
- www.playfullearning.net
- www.fairydustteaching.com/loose-parts
- www.makerspace.com

Inspiring Loose Parts Play in Young Children Series

All four of the books are written by Lisa Daly Miriam Beloglovsky

Loose parts are open-ended materials that offer tremendous play value and provide children with a whole range of activities. A rich selection of loose parts can include both natural and manufactured items.

In the books there are more than 550 colorful photographs of many kinds of loose parts and suggestions on how to use them. The books also provides inspiration and information about the ways loose parts support open-ended learning, enhance play, and empower children.

SCRAP RVA

www.richmond.scrapcreativeuse.org

SCRAP RVA is nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire creative reuse and environmentally sustainable behavior by providing educational programs and affordable materials to the community.

Repurposing Creative Finds for Creative Minds: Thinking Outside the Box

This is an article written by Lisa Mufson Bresson published in the December 2017 and January 2018 issues of TYC Magazine. It provides simple and practical tips on how to use recycled materials with young children. The article is available at www.NAEYC.org/thinking-outside-box.

Exploration – Encouraging Play at Home with Recycled Materials

You don't need a cardboard box to inspire young children's imagination. Encourage them to explore, tinker and create using whatever recycled materials and loose parts you have around in the house and outside. The possibilities are endless if you have materials such as:

- Cardboard tubes
- PVC tubes
- Tape
- Rope/String
- Plastic bottles and caps
- Soda/Milk Crates
- Old tires
- Sticks/Twigs
- Pinecones
- Old tools
- Recycled Containers
- Pool Noodles
- Fabric
- Any open-ended materials that have multiple use

Thing to do at Home to Inspire Children's Creativity and Imagination through Play

- Focus on the process (children don't need direction or instructions)
- Encourage exploration (allow children to use materials as they see fit)
- Allow children to tinker with recycled loose parts
- Allow children to play outdoors
- Take children to shop at a Goodwill or a scrap store
- Provide wordless books (let them make up their own words)
- Utilize the resources from this blog post