

STORYTIME @ HOME GUIDES

CONSTRUCTION ZONE

Fingerplays and Songs

[I'm a Little Dump Truck](#) by Jbrary

I'm a great big dump truck full of
rocks.

Here is my engine.

Here is my box.

When the crew is ready,
hear me shout.

Pull the lever and dump me out!

[Cranes](#) from Prekfun.com

Cranes reach up (arms up)

Cranes reach down (arms down)

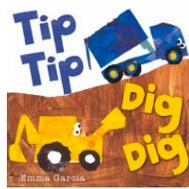
Cranes reach out (arms out)

And all around (turn around)



Read Aloud Stories

As you enjoy these read aloud stories with your child, ask them open-ended questions about the stories. Open-ended questions help children to think more deeply about the world around them.



[Tip Tip Dig Dig](#) by Emma Garcia

Various construction vehicles work together to create something beautiful. Can you name the colors of all of the vehicles in the story? Which one is your favorite? Why? What did you think the vehicles were building? What else could they build?



[Dig Dig Digging](#) by Margaret Mayo

Find out what big vehicles do all day long! Try to act out the story as you listen to it. Can you dig like a digger and lift like a crane? Are there any vehicles you know that are not in the story? What do they do?

[The Digger and the Flower](#) by Joseph Kuefler

A busy digger makes a beautiful discovery in a gray city. What colors do you see in the beginning of the story? At the end? Why do you think the digger tried to save the flower?



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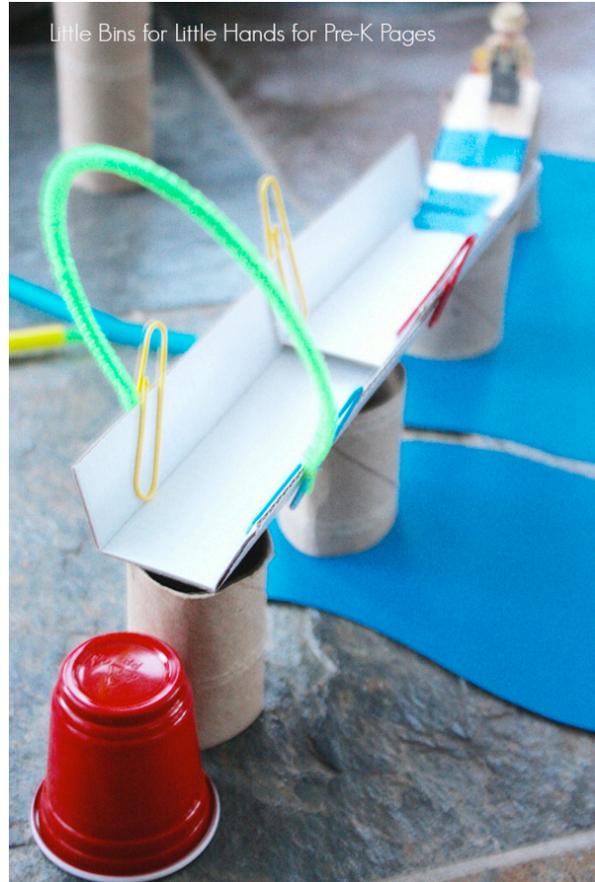
Fun Activities To Try At Home!

Children love to play pretend! Dramatic play is a great way for a child to express their imagination and explore the world around them. Use everyday objects as building supplies and to create dramatic play costumes. This brown paper bag construction worker vest from nevershushed.com is quick and easy to make!

To make the vest, hold a paper grocery bag flat with the open end down. Cut straight up the middle from the open end to the opposite edge. This forms the front of the vest. Open up the bag and cut a hole for the head starting at the edge where you ended the first cut. Next, cut two holes in the sides of the bag for arm holes. Taper the bottom edges of the vest. Decorate the vest with stripes of yellow and orange construction paper or color with marker or crayon.



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Playing construction worker and building structures can also help develop a child's fine motor skills. Collect a variety of everyday objects - paper cups, cardboard tubes, paper, tape, straws, clips, bread bag ties, etc., and let your child create their own structure. Or, work together to create a bridge that can support a toy or coins. For more ideas on bridge building, check out pre-kpages.com.