

Inspire Kit

How can kids use simple objects in endless ways to boost creativity?

Inspiring Creativity
Ages 2 to 8

Kit Contents

Although the contents of your kit can be used in nearly limitless ways, this guide is designed to share some of our favorite ways to use the objects included to spark creativity-boosting play.

Contents List

- *Tiny Little Rocket* by Richard Collingridge
- *The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires
- 1 stainless steel bucket
- 2 cotton pillow cases



Added Materials Needed for Play Ideas:

- Fabric scissors
- Rubber bands
- Paints or markers
- Water
- Nature treasures (pebbles, leaves, acorns, flowers, etc)
- Objects with natural pigment (e.g. spices, berries, beets, flower petals)

Invite Creativity Boosting Play

Endless Uses for a Pillowcase—Kids learn to think flexibly and generate more ideas when they have the chance to use a simple object in many different ways. Here are just a couple ways they could use your pillowcases:

- **Collecting bag**—Take your pillowcase on a hike and collect sticks, pine cones or treasures of all kinds!
- **Canvas**—Use natural items with pigment like berries or spices and water to make nature paints. Use your pillowcase as a canvas! See our Un-recipe for Paint DIY Activity for more.
- **Make a "bindle"**—Cut your pillowcase in half and tie it to a stick to make carting treasures even more fun. See our Make a Bindle DIY activity for more.
- **Catch the Wind!** Cut up part or all of a pillowcase to make triangular flag shapes, then go and investigate the wind! See our Catch the Wind DIY activity for more.
- **Owl Wings**—Cut down both sides of your pillowcase so you have one strip of fabric. Measure and cut slits 8 inches and 14 inches in from each end. Perfect snowy owl wings!
- Share more ideas in our free OutdoorsAll4 Facebook Group!

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW KIDS DEVELOP CREATIVITY:

Creativity is an essential skill our kids will need in order to thrive in their future. The good news? Kids are born creative thinkers, and it's our opportunity to help them strengthen it for the long haul. Watch and learn more about divergent thinking—one key aspect of creativity that kids can bolster when we welcome them to use the same object in many different ways.



TINKERGARTEN BUCKETS

Likely the most beloved object in Tinkergarten is the steel pail. Sturdy and ready for true adventure, it welcomes your explorer to collect, mix, fill, dump, bang, climb up and more.



When you give them the bucket, let them know it's a special bucket—one for collecting, making messes and for whatever they can imagine. It's THEIR special bucket, and it will go with them on endless adventures. Then, step back and behold!