

Under 2's Activities

Create Your Own Den



Resources Needed:

- Bedsheets
- Towels
- Sofa cushions
- Pillows
- Fairy lights (optional)

Duration:

Open ended, as long as children can keep their interest.

Intent:

To allow children to help in building their own dens and creating a secret den. Many learning opportunities can come out from creating a little den.

Implementation:

Use different materials around the house to create your own little getaway den. An example would be to suspend a bedsheet from nearby furniture and use cushions and pillows to make it cosy. Using cushions as steppingstones to jump across to get into your den. Use the sofa as the base for your den or a small table, big enough for you and your child to squeeze inside.

Extend:

Once you make the den together and explored different ways to get in and out of the den using pillows and cushions. For a quiet time, use torches and previously made sock puppets to read some stories in the dark. You can create hide-and-seek games. Teddy Bears can visit your den and possibly create your own teddy bears picnic inside.

Babies: fairy lights and other sensory materials such as sensory bottles will keep them cosy and entertained in their getaway den.

Keywords and Language:

Make, pull, cover, hide, find, peek-a-boo.



EYFS Learning Outcomes:

- Personal, Social and Emotional:
 - Explores new environment when supported by familiar adult (8-20 months)
 - Explores new toys and environments (16-26 months)
- Communication and Language:
 - Listens to and enjoys rhythmic patterns in rhymes and stories (16-26 months)
- Physical Development:
 - Developing the ability to follow others' body language, including pointing and gesture (8-20 months)
 - Selects familiar objects by name and will go and find objects
 - When asked to identify objects from a group (16-26 months)
 - Understands simple sentences (16-26 months)

