

# BLINK AT HOME

# Crafty Construction



## How can I build a city?

### Skills to Develop

- + Early literacy skills
- + Creative thinking
- + Fine motor skills

### Materials

- + Imagination Library with a construction theme
- + Rocks, dried beans, shells, etc.
- + Small containers
- + Construction vehicles
- + Blocks, LEGOs, etc.

## WHAT TO DO

### During the Learning Activity

1. Choose a construction themed book from the Imagination Library, such as:
  - + *Baby Builders* by Elissa Guest
  - + *Brick by Brick* by Heidi Woodward Scheffield
  - + *Little Excavator* by Anna Dewdney
2. As you read the book, discuss the story: *what do you notice? What are they building? How are they building? What tools and materials are they using to build?*
3. After reading, discuss plans for building a city together. Ask: *what did they build in the book that we want in our city? What else do we need in our city? What should we build first? What materials should we use to build our city?*
4. Invite your child to take the lead in constructing the city. Offer them the building materials you have gathered and the rocks or dried beans in small containers to haul in their construction vehicles.
5. As your child builds, encourage them to share about their different building projects and think of ways they can expand their city. Ask: *what do we need in our city that is not a building? What else do we need in our city? Where do children go to school? What else does our city need?*

### Extend the Fun

- + Create a city sized for your favorite toys.
- + Pretend play construction zones in other areas, such as in a sandbox or dirt.



ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

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Alaska's Early Childhood Investment