

WATER PLAY

Create an open-ended outdoor play space anywhere!

Imagine playing with a garden hose or gallon jugs of water, gutters, spray bottles, buckets, funnels, and a variety of loose parts. With a little creativity and a quick raid of your kitchen, you can create an open-ended outdoor play space anywhere!

Materials to have on hand:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> water sources | <input type="checkbox"/> crates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> funnels | <input type="checkbox"/> pots and pans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flexihoses | <input type="checkbox"/> old kitchen utensils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> condiment squeeze bottles | <input type="checkbox"/> spray bottles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> watering cans | <input type="checkbox"/> rocks, sticks and logs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sponges | <input type="checkbox"/> tree cookies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> foam noodles | <input type="checkbox"/> ice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> white dish basins | <input type="checkbox"/> boards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gutters | <input type="checkbox"/> chalk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> balls | |



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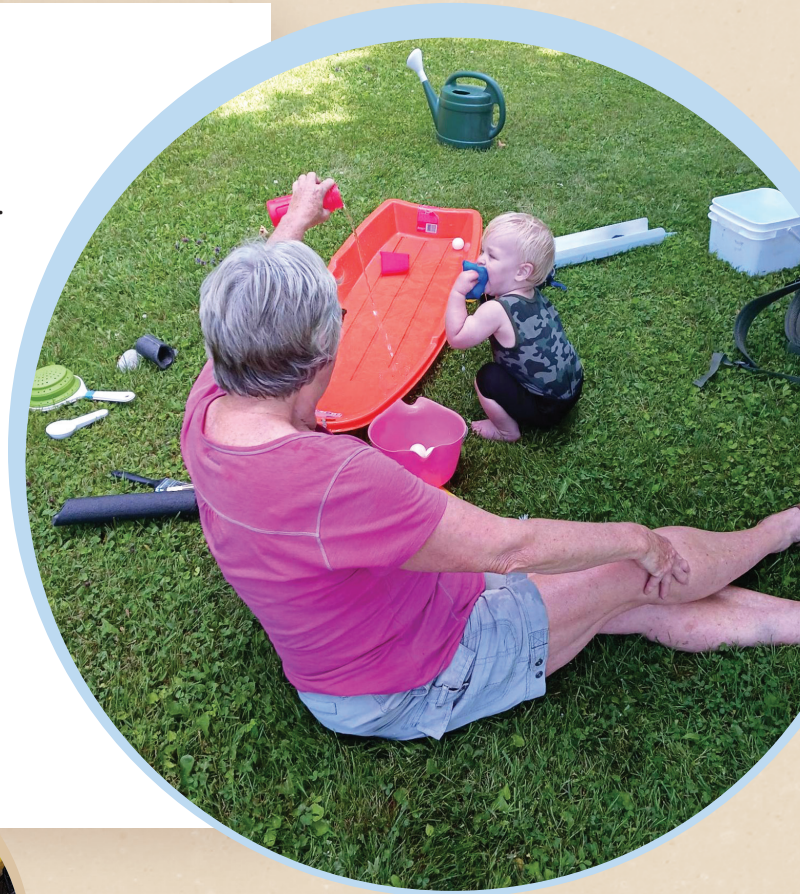
Adult Role

Looks like:

- Being present while stepping back to allow children to play uninterrupted or with friends.
- Modeling curiosity and engaging in your own water play.
- Keeping track of children's play and what is engaging them. Our role is to keep kids safe.

Sounds like:

- "I noticed how you sharedwith a friend, how kind!"
- "How can you be safe when you're..."
- "I wonder what will happen if you..."
- "How does it feel when you..."
- "What's your plan?"



Books

Hey, Water! by Antoinette Portis
Water Can Be... by Laura Purdie Salas

What are the benefits for children of loose parts play?

- Communicating with others through role play
- Sharing and turn taking
- Developing language by being immersed in play with all sorts of tools and materials
- Developing fine and gross motor skills
- Fostering imagination and creative thinking
- Developing sensory systems by using senses of touch, hearing, seeing, smelling, tasting to explore the environment
- Practicing problem solving
- Experimenting with cause and effect
- Developing a sense of agency as they move objects, change their environment, create their own games and play