

 Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose

The WONDER CABINET WORKSHEETS

Collaging

The process of exploring, experimenting and discovering “what can stick together,” or collaging, will delight toddlers and preschoolers. Pasting, tearing, and assembling things together gives young children a pleasurable sensory activity.

By sorting, choosing and gluing beautiful, pre-cut collage materials, young children are refining the small muscle control in their hands and fingers.

In The Wonder Cabinet:

Today, *The Wonder Cabinet* is providing varied textured collaging materials to reinforce shape, texture, and color awareness. We want the children to be stimulated but not overwhelmed, so providing limited amounts of materials in collage containers helps achieve this goal.

As the children become more experienced with the materials provided at the art tables, they are invited to increase their choices of materials by collecting additional treasures from the art baskets. Items in the baskets on *The Wonder Cabinet* shelves are changed every month to stimulate new ideas and interest.

Please note: it is important to consider that scissors are not important at this beginning stage of art expression.

At Home:

Later, at home, we invite you to find a place in your house to keep some containers of pre-cut or torn collaging materials. We find that a child-size shoebox with dividers works well! Remember, a small amount of collaging materials will work best; as your child becomes more proficient with using materials, add new items.

Suggested materials:

- torn scraps of foil, tissue, construction paper, crepe paper, newspaper, or other types of paper
- fabric scraps
- yarn and string
- Natural items like leaves and twigs
- Glue stick or white glue
- Paper, cardboard or paper plates to glue on