

5-Kindergarten Suggestions

Your unit is Objects & Materials, specifically wood, paper, plastic, metal, and cloth. The kit is Wood & Paper.

Consider asking parents to send in a reusable shopping bag (fabric) containing the following:

- an empty tin can that has been washed clean
- a plastic shopping bag from 3 different stores (3 different types of plastic)
- an empty plastic bottle or jug that has been washed clean
- a cloth/fabric scrap
- a piece of cardboard or a small box
- an old magazine or newspaper
- something made of Styrofoam (as a type of plastic)

Tell parents that the items will not be returned. Keep the items for use next year.

In the classroom, set up stations where the students may sort the items.

- All plastic on this table, fabric on this table, etc.
- All human-made on this table, natural on this table
- Can hold water, cannot be used to hold water (uses)
- Magnetic, not magnetic

K.P.4A.3 Conduct structured investigations to answer questions about which materials have the properties that are best suited to solve a problem or need.

Students must actually use materials to build something and test its effectiveness. I suggest that they draw it first, then use available materials to build something, then discuss how their creation could be improved possibly with a different material. You may want to assign this as an at-home project so that parents may participate. (Yes, I know they are in 5K☺). What could 5 year-olds build?

- They could build and test boats made from different materials to see how well they float or how many marshmallows they will hold before sinking. <http://www.cleanvideosearch.com/media/action/yt/watch?v=xKZrkZBSWbM>
- They could make umbrellas and see which is most lightweight and blocks the sunlight best.
- They could make a garage for Matchbox cars or for a doll—maybe they are required to use at least 3 different materials for this project. What are the benefits of a garage made from cardboard vs. plastic?
- They could make a shoe that actually fits their foot. What are the benefits of certain materials—sturdiness, waterproof, flexibility, etc.
- They could make their own type of musical instrument using at least 3 materials. <http://www.kinderart.com/teachers/9instruments.shtml>
- They could make a toy, then make a poster to advertise why it is fun to play with. <http://www.playideas.com/18-easy-make-toys/>
<https://www.realsimple.com/work-life/family/kids-parenting/toys-you-can-make>