

# The Infants' Home

## Child and Family Services

### The Infants' Home at Home Series

## Making a Collage

#### What you need

- Paper
- Glue/paste
- Child safe scissors
- A collection of collage materials

#### How you do it

- Work at a table, and keep the collage items in plastic tubs or on a tray. This can help you keep any mess under control.
- Follow your child's lead. They might want to make a picture with the collage – sticking down leaves and paper to make a forest, for example. Or they might just want to stick down the items in a pretty pattern. Let them choose, and give them lots of praise.
- Sit with your child while they create. Talk about what your child is doing, and ask questions. For example, 'I love the way you've used the blue ribbon as the sky. Is that us on holiday last year?' You might even want to make a collage of your own.

**Collage items are anything that will stick to your paper!**

**You could try: pictures cut out of magazines or catalogues, scraps of paper, ribbon or fabric, dried pasta, cereal or rice, sequins, glitter, tinsel or foil, natural objects like leaves, feathers and sand. Pipe-cleaners, paperclips, ice-cream sticks or buttons.**

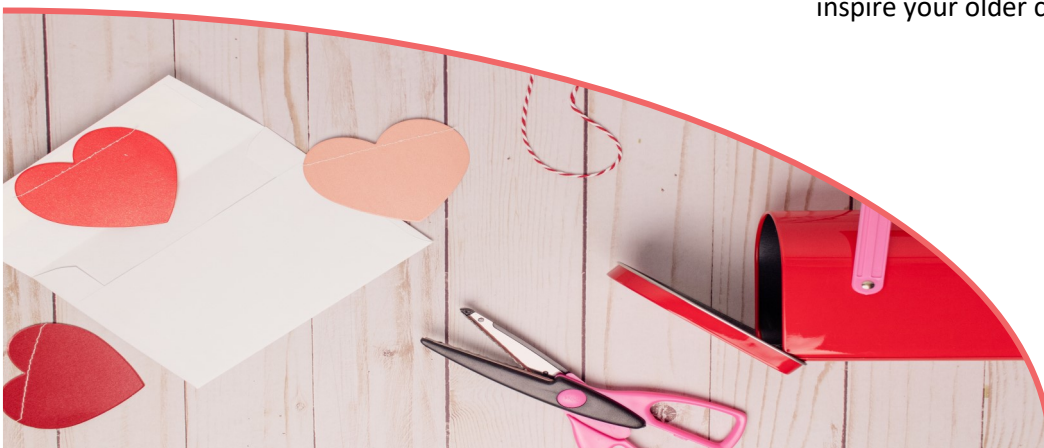
#### Learning Opportunities

- Fine motor skills: work with your child to safely use the scissors, handle the materials and place them in the right place.
- Expression: this is a great opportunity for your child to express how their feeling. Perhaps you can use different colours and pictures of facial expressions to help them express those emotions.
- Colour and texture exploration: Using different collage materials can help children explore texture. Try using a wide variety: soft, hard, sticky, shiny etc.

#### Further Opportunities

Your younger child might manage to stick on only a few items to make their collage. They probably won't be able to use scissors, and they might need help with glue. Praise all their efforts. Their attention span might be short, so put everything away when she looks like they've had enough.

Many well-known artists use collage. Why not search online for images of collage artworks to inspire your older child?



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