

# Surprise Boxes for Babies

## What's in the Box?

Babies love to explore and learn through play. This activity provides an opportunity for babies to practice their skills as they reach for the end of the material and pull it out and then post it back into the box for another turn.

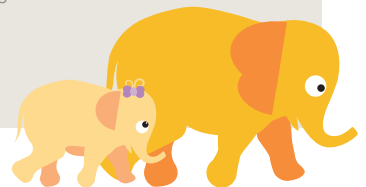
Playing with surprise boxes introduces your baby to concepts such as in and out and push and pull. The item may be out of sight, but the baby knows that it's there and loves to find it again! Surprise boxes are a great way for babies to practice their hand and eye coordination and enjoy sensory play.



Hand and eye coordination is an important step in your baby's development. When our eyes track our hand movements, they send important messages to the brain about what the hands are doing.

## What you need...

- + A container/box that has a small opening at the top such as a tissue box or a baby wipes container
- + Several pieces of material or one long scarf
- + A range of objects that your baby/toddler could discover in the box such as soft toys
- + Glue



Learn how to make a surprise box for your baby on the next page! →

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## What to do:

1. If using small pieces of material or hankies or scarves, tie these together in a row so that you have one long piece (like a snake)
2. Place some glue at the bottom of your box/container and attach one end of the material to the bottom
3. Let the glue dry
4. Place all the material into box, leaving the very end out for your baby to grasp and begin pulling out

**Alternatively**, you can simply place your objects in the box for your baby to discover and play with

**This activity is appropriate for babies from four months of age and upwards.**



## Inspiration

Fill a few different boxes with different sensory items for your baby to find and play with. Include some soft items, some squishy items, some shiny items, some items that jingle and items of different colours.

