



Learning and playing with PEBBLES



Maths with pebbles

Create a line of pebbles from smallest to largest or lightest to heaviest. Or group all the same size rocks together of the same size. Count each pile. Can you add them all up, how high can you count?

Find a safe place to throw rocks and discuss.... How far can you throw them? Which ones are easier to throw? Which rocks go further?

Create pebble art

Create pebble people, animals or anything you like. Talk about what you need to make people, for example small pebbles for eyes and nose; long pebbles for arms and legs; round pebbles for head etc.

Can you make a family of rock people? Maybe you could add a pet dinosaur? Or build a rock house? What other natural objects could you use?



Create words and numbers

Write letters on pebbles and make names and words to learn early literacy. Use different coloured pens to write in upper case and lower case.

Can you find me the letter that your name starts with? Is that upper or lower case? What other words can you write?

Pebble towers

Stack pebbles on top of each other to build a tower and balance carefully to see how high it can get before it tumbles. Take your time and go slow! Count how many pebbles as you keep adding higher.

What happens if you put a small rock on the bottom? Why does the rounded rock fall off easily? What else could you use to build a tower in nature?



Pebble play build children's fine motor skills, strength and dexterity. Building up these small muscles also supports independence in 'life' skills like getting dressed, feeding selves and later with early literacy being able to hold pencils and begin writing skills.

Have you seen painted rocks hidden in your local park?

They are part of a kindness movement, which with the help of community-driven Facebook groups provides treasure hunts for children all over communities. #paintedrocks



This wonderful resource has been developed by Nature Play QLD
www.natureplayqld.org.au