



Playing with Junk

By now most children have played with and rediscovered every toy in their homes, some of them may still be providing entertainment, whereas others will be put back into toy boxes, with children looking for something new to play with.

In our playwork setting you will find very little, if any toys instead you will find junk items which we call loose parts. In the theory of loose parts, objects that don't have an obvious play function require the children to use their imaginations in order to play with them, the things children can do increases with the number of objects and the opportunity for the child to change and adapt them. Playworkers look for an objects play value rather than its financial value when giving it to children. The advantage of loose parts is that they are cheap (mostly free), can be replaced once they no longer have play value and can be adapted to fit the child's play needs.

The next time you go to throw something away first ask yourself if the children can safely play with it? On playschemes unlikely things such as old walking frames, suitcases and furniture have proved popular as well as the more obvious cardboard boxes and tubes.

Useful links

www.maketimetoplay.co.uk

www.nationaltust.org.uk

Young Wrexham Website

www.youngwrexham.co.uk

Play and Youth Support
Team

Contact us

play@wrexham.gov.uk

01978298361

Send your playful pics to play@wrexham.gov.uk and we will share in the coming weeks.



Play object of the week

Foil Trays and containers.

Fairy gardens

Water and sand toys.

Model boats

Paint trays, for hand/footprints etc

Mud pies.



Playful Challenges - How many can you do in a week?

Silly

Get dressed and pick your outfit in the dark (or eyes closed)

Physical

Roll down a grassy hill.

Entertaining

Make pictures of famous people using objects from your kitchen, can anyone guess who they are?

Practical

Treat the family to afternoon tea, make triangle sandwiches, arrange biscuits and cakes on a plate, make it look pretty.

Key Skills

Research how to make a tin foil boat, predict how many pennies it will hold, then test out to see if you were right.

