

HOW TO MAKE EMERGENCY TOYS

- ★ **Turn objects into faces.**
Socks, spoons, pillows, plates—any object can become a fascinating toy when you give it eyes, a nose, and a mouth. Funny voices that appear to come from the object also add appeal.

- ★ **Add sound.**
Place coins, beans, rocks, keys, or other small objects inside a sippy cup or plastic storage container to create an instant rattle or musical instrument. Make certain the lid is tightly fastened to avoid potential choking hazards.

- ★ **Create pairs.**
Tie together two objects, like wooden spoons or shoes, with a short string. When the baby pulls one, the other follows, or when she knocks one off a table, the other falls, too. This cause-and-effect game sharpens a baby's motor skills and provides hours of fun.

AIRPLANE TELEPHONE

- 1** Remove the phone from the seat back in front of you.
- 2** Hand your child the phone.
- 3** Say, "See if you can call someone."

- 4** **Watch the button pushing and conversation.**
As long as you don't have a credit card in the phone, there's no activation and no charge.
- 5** **Discontinue the game if she becomes frustrated.**
Also discontinue if your neighbors become annoyed.

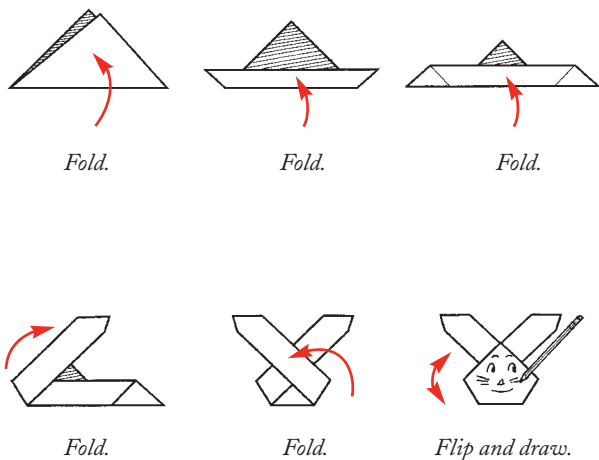
AIRPLANE AIRSICKNESS BAG PUPPET

- 1** **Remove the airsickness bag from the seat pocket in front of you.**
Verify that the bag is empty.
- 2** **Draw eyes on the bottom of the bag.**
- 3** **Lift the edge of the bottom slightly and add a tongue.**
This will be the mouth.
- 4** **Place your hand inside the bag.**
- 5** **Animate.**

RESTAURANT NAPKIN

- 1** **Obtain a paper napkin.**
Ask your server for an extra napkin, or borrow one from a nearby table.
- 2** **Open the napkin fully.**

Napkin into Bunny Rabbit



- 3** Fold it into a triangle.
- 4** Fold the longest side up approximately 1.5 inches.
- 5** Fold the same side the same amount again.
- 6** Fold one end of the bottom edge toward the center, on a diagonal, to form one of the ears.
- 7** Repeat with the other bottom edge.
- 8** Hold the napkin in place, and flip it over.

9 Draw a bunny rabbit face.

10 Play.

Tape the bunny's head to a spoon to make it into a stick puppet.

EVERYDAY ITEMS

Readily available items can be repurposed to entertain small children in an emergency.

- Tongue depressors—pickup sticks, dancing puppets.
- Rubber gloves—inflatable turkeys.
- Phonograph—merry-go-round for small dolls or animals.
- Funnel—megaphone, trumpet.
- Banana—telephone.
- Orange—soccer ball.
- Spice bottle—rattle.
- Tissue box—box of birds.
- CDs—ring toss.
- Wooden spoons and plastic containers—drums, twirling circus.

Be Aware

- Keep a toy everywhere—in the car, in the stroller (or tied to it), in the diaper bag, in the backpack—to avoid being caught without one.
- Purchase a backup of your child's favorite toy. The treasured toy will eventually get lost or broken.