



Copy-me Box

A good activity for children who tend to play on their own and are not yet responding to playful attention from adults or other children.



- Put together a copy box that's likely to interest the child you have in mind. A Copy Box is a DOUBLE set of toys, presented to a child in a large container. The kind of toy you put in the copy box is relevant to the child's developmental needs. The idea is to play with your child by offering the box, WAITING to see what your child chooses to do, and then copying alongside your child with the duplicate piece of equipment, and copying your child's actions.
 - Show the child the box and its contents and then get down onto the same level as the child- if he/she is on the floor sit there together.
 - Sitting opposite will allow for more opportunities to make eye contact, but some children find it easier if the adult sits alongside. Follow the child's lead; copy what he or she does.
 - Try not to ask questions. Use brief, simple language to describe what the child and you are doing e.g. "brushing hair". Your child may be more relaxed if you copy quietly
- What to watch for
- The child may look at you or show in some other way that they have noticed you are copying them. Once the child gets used to being copied in this way, he or she may keep looking at what you are doing. He or she may begin to pause and wait for you to copy. This is the beginning of turn taking,

Try adding a little something to the play, something similar to what the child's just done, then pause and see if he or she copies you.

