

# Fitting Pieces Into Holes

## Primary Objectives

7a. Uses fingers and hands

## Why It's Important

In order to facilitate the development of fine-motor skills, it helps to offer your child a fine-motor task with a specific purpose. When presented with one or more objects that, after manipulation, result in an obvious achievement, your child may show more interest in completing the task.

## Materials

Toy construction set with wooden or plastic spools, caps, cylindrical pieces, and connector sticks of various lengths

## What You Do

1. Place the toy construction set and all its pieces on the table.
2. Invite your child to play with the construction set. Demonstrate how the connector sticks fit into the different holes of the spools, caps, and cylindrical pieces.
3. Ask your child to help you build with the construction set, using the sticks to connect the different items together. Encourage him to find the proper hole for each piece.
4. If he has trouble attaching the sticks to the spools or caps, guide his hand as he attempts to connect each piece.
5. Ask your child questions about what piece he would like to attach next, the colors of each piece, and how the items work together. *Do you want to connect this purple stick to the spool? Or should we connect the blue stick? What happens when you attach the blue stick in one of the holes on the side of the spool? What happens when you try to attach it to the hole in the middle of the spool?*
6. When the creation is assembled, offer encouragement about what your child has built. *You connected so many different colored sticks to the caps!*
7. Encourage your child to disassemble his work and build a new creation. Allow him to continue the activity for as long as he is interested. Store all the pieces of the toy construction set in a basket where your child can use them again at a later time.