

# Creative Reuse



## Lids, Lids, Lids!

How many types of lids do we encounter everyday?

### Types of Lids:

- Plastic
- Metal
- Corks

The daily use of common household products can add up to an endless amount of lids. Detergents, shampoos, water bottles, vitamins, make-up, jar lids, tupperware boxes, food containers, fast food containers, and cans all contain lids of diverse sizes, shapes, and colors.

What if we offered these as open ended, creative materials to our future generations to rethink, reuse, and repurpose? Would they toss them out as adults or disregard the amount of waste as we do? Or would they see them with new eyes? Creative thinkers see the many possibilities of these colorful creative materials as opportunities for creating, inventing, and reusing.

### Recycle Facts about Lids:

Did you know that many recycle centers do not accept lids?

We often put these together in our bins with the assumptions these can be recycled. However, many times these are often made of different materials than the container and recycle centers don't accept them as they can get caught in machines. Check the rules of your recycling center!

How can we reduce the use of lids?

Buy in bulk and reduce consumption of individual packaging!

## Recommendations for Provocations:

Work Area should be clean, organized, & aesthetic

- Cut plastic bottles, use the bottoms for sorting by shape and color
- Use slabs of wood, clay, plexiglass, or cloth surfaces for arranging
- Offer visuals such as photos of inspirations or documentation of the process.
- Offer notebooks or drawing paper to encourage sketches
- Take photos of the provocation before, during, and after the process.
- Offer tools needed for attaching or drawing



## Educational

### Counting

Small lids are great for marking numbers and medium sized lids can be used to mark math symbols. They are great math manipulatives to arrange shares & groups for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Lids can be counted by color or size for younger children.

### Spelling

Try marking letters and create your own spelling games like scrabble or boggle! A great pre-literacy manipulative for beginning sounds and letter identification!

### Patterns

Younger and older children can explore using a variety of colors to arrange patterns.

## Arts

### Composing

Start with an arranging surface like a mat or a slab of wood. Sort colors and begin arranging and composing your own mosaic or abstract piece!  
Tip: offer this as a daily exploration before considering to affix it as a permanent art piece.

### Shades

Use the bottoms of plastic bottles to sort shades of colors. You can also sort by warm and cool colors. Then use for your art project!

### Shapes

A great manipulative for learning about shapes. Create squares, triangles, rectangles, and many more!

## Explorations

### Sorting

Sort by color or size! You can use the bottoms of plastic bottles, egg cartons, or ice cube trays and sorting containers.

### Building

Build your own 3-dimensional objects using lids! A great accessory for cars, houses etc. Corks make great building materials for an art project or add these to your block center!

## Links & Resources:

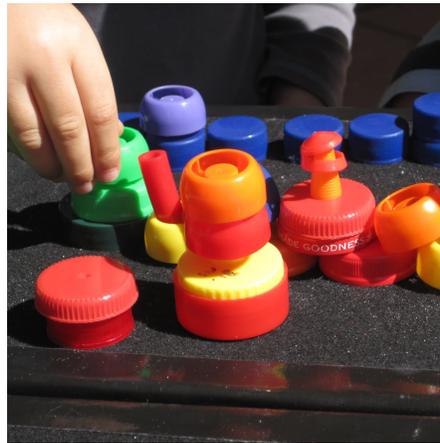
[Beautiful Stuff, Learning with Found Materials](#) by Lella Gandini & Cathy Topal

[Remida Day](#) by Elena Giacopini

### About our center:

We are located in Bali, Indonesia. Many of our beaches and villages are covered in trash. The Waste collected for our center is from local businesses or individuals and then packaged in bulk or activity kits for teachers and families. We work to create community programs collaborating with local artists & organizations.

The mission of this center is to create educational opportunities and encourage children to become engaged creative thinkers when they re-envision trash as a valued resource and inspiration for reuse. Our goals are multi-faceted in educating children about the importance of reducing trash, the environmental affects, and the creative reuses of our waste.



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[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bali-Creative-Reuse-Center/417415018402692?ref=br\\_tf](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bali-Creative-Reuse-Center/417415018402692?ref=br_tf)