



45004 Café+

Five Ideas for Encouraging Collaboration

Age: 3-5 * For 2-4 children



Tip

Set up a café or shop where the children can order, buy, and make food items together. You may consider using the LEGO® Soft Starter Set to construct the café or shop.



Areas of Learning

- * **Language development**
- expressing and communicating ideas
- * **Social and emotional development**
- cooperating with others in small groups
- * **Creative development**
- expressing the familiar and less familiar through role-playing and small-world simulations



5 Ideas:

* Some children like to make everything on the menu; have the children decide who will be responsible for what. Then work together to build all the items. Finding the corresponding pieces is a whole job unto itself.

* The children may choose to role-play restaurant or café scenarios with a wait person taking orders from customers and giving them to the chefs. When role-playing, prompt the children to write down their orders. They may need to help each other draw or trace menu items.

* Ask the children to work in pairs for this activity. Select two sets of the same bricks, and prompt the first child to build a food item while the second child closes his or her eyes. Make sure the second child does not see what's being built. Ask the first child to give the second child instructions on how to build

the same food item. Encourage the second child to build the food item, using only the description provided by the first child. Allow the second child to peek at the built food item once or twice during the process.

* Encourage the children to work together to build an entire birthday cake, and then role-play taking turns having a slice. Ask questions such as, "How many pieces are there?" "How many people can share the cake?" "If we eat half the cake, how many slices are left?"

* Discuss with the children how they can make healthy food choices. Have them work together to build one entire healthy meal. If the children are having trouble getting started, suggest building a sandwich, an apple, or berries.



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