



## Objects without frontiers

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### **PRESCHOOL EDUCATION**

Work form with a focus on the thinking tool 'looking for alternative possibilities'.

### **PURPOSE**

Children broaden their horizons by looking for alternatives.

### **BEFORE YOU START**

Together with the children, Immerse yourself in your topic.

*E.g. 'waste': What is it? Where does it come from? What do we throw away? When do we throw something away? Etc.*

Find a number of objects and think of at least 2 different ways you can use each of them.

*E.g. toothbrush: brush teeth and massage, scarf: tie around your neck and wipe the table clean*

Or:

Think of one task you want to complete and think of at least 2 different objects.

*E.g. a throwing game: I can do it with a ball and with a cushion*

### **MATERIAL**

-objects with different functions

### **STEP 1**

Tell the children that you can usually do several things with a single object.

Or, vice versa, that you are looking for objects to perform a single, specific task.

Illustrate using your object(s).

The children think of other functions for your objects. Or, vice versa, they think of other objects that will perform your task.



## STEP 2

The children look for objects which they can use for doing different things, or different objects they can use for one and the same task.

## STEP 3

Collect all the objects and show them.

The children tell what you can do with them and/or how to use them.

If possible, let them show how.

Specify explicitly the categories to which the different uses of the objects could belong.

*E.g. With this cloth you can brush, but you can also play a game with it. With this cooking pot you can cook and you can make music.*

## STEP 4

Repeat the same task. This gives the children the chance to imitate each other, or to be inspired by each other.



## REFLECTION

- Can one think of two or three uses for every thing that exists? Why do you think that?
- Are there things you shouldn't use in any other way? Which? Why?
- Have you ever had, for instance, to water the plants without a watering can, or brush your teeth without a toothbrush, or play football without a football...? Which object did you use instead?

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The thinking tool used in this work form ('looking for alternative possibilities') develops your creative thinking.