

Sew Easy

With a few recyclable materials, you and your child will find this activity "sew" easy!

Collect

- Mesh fabric – could be an old laundry bag, a no-slip carpet pad or even an onion bag!
- 2 plastic container lids (must be same size)
- Pipe cleaner
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun

Build a sewing hoop

1. Use the scissors to cut out the center of each lid. Make sure to leave a ¼" inch ring around the edge.
2. Cut a circle out of the mesh material. The circle should be able to fit inside the lip of one of the rings.
3. Sandwich the mesh circle between both lids and secure with glue using the hot glue gun.

Make a kid-friendly sewing needle

4. Cut a length of yarn about two feet long.
5. Place one end of the yarn in the middle of the pipe cleaner, fold the pipe cleaner in half and twist the ends together to secure the yarn.
6. Gently pull on the yarn to even up both sides.

Does your child want to thread their own needle? Instead of yarn, place a pencil in the middle of the pipe cleaner before you fold and twist. When you slide the pencil out, there should be an "eye" big enough for a piece of yarn to fit through.

Try it out!

Use the pipe cleaner needle to practice pulling the yarn through the holes of the mesh fabric, creating an over-under-over pattern. What different shapes can you make? Are there any other sewing patterns you can create? When you're ready to create something new, just remove the yarn and start again!

