

# Barn Bonanza

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## Content Areas

Physical: Manipulative Skills

Social: Self-Control, Interactions with Others, Problem-Solving

Cognitive: Science: Resources

Emotional: Self-Concept, Self-Control, Interaction with Others, Problem-Solving

## Objective

Students will:

- Build a barn out of a cardboard box
- Interact well with others when playing with the barn
- See how things can be reused

## Materials

- Cardboard box (any size you want but try to get one big enough to fit plastic animals)
- 1 sheet of cardboard for the roof (could cut off the bottom of box and use it)
- Pencil or marker
- Scissors or craft knife
- Tempera or acrylic paint (red, white, and black)
- Scrap newspaper (to protect the area you are working in)

## Background Knowledge

The vast majority, more than 98 percent, of Virginia and U.S. farms are owned by individuals, family partnerships, and family corporations. This tells you a lot about the amount of farms in Virginia, as well, and how they are such a big part of the community. Not only do they provide us all of our food, but they are our friends, family, and neighbors. American-grown foods travel a shorter distance from farm to table than do imported foods.

This lesson is created in order to reinforce social, physical, and emotional development in preschoolers, while teaching them the importance of farms through the creation of a barn in the classroom. The barn is designed to stay in the classroom as a part of the student's center time. They are encouraged to play with it throughout the day. This will be a fun but tricky lesson because you will have to find a way to incorporate all of your students so that they each have something to do. You may want to have a few cutting, while others are painting and even others are drawing. You may want to make two barns so you can have different groups working on each barn.

## Procedure

1. Make sure you have all of the materials together before you do this lesson.
2. Mark the top of the cardboard box so that it has the roof-line of a barn.
3. Cut the cardboard along the markings, making a barn shape.
4. Mark the barn doors on top of the bottom edge of the box on two sides opposite from one another. Draw a rectangle with a line down the middle. Cut along the top, bottom, and middle lines, the outer vertical lines should stay so create hinges.
5. For the roof, cut a rectangle of cardboard that is about an inch to two longer and wider than the barn. Mark where the fold will be and then carefully fold the rectangle in half. Place the roof on the barn to make sure it fits.
6. Mark where you want the windows to be with squares on the sides, back, and front of the barn. You can either paint them black with white trim after you paint the barn red or cut them out so children can see inside of the windows.
7. Paint the barn red and let it dry.
8. Paint an X over the doors.
9. Paint the roof white or gray and let it dry.
10. It's time to play with your barn!

## References

[www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com)

