

# LOOSE PARTS

Starter Kit



 **Scholar's Choice**  
Play. Discover. Learn.

# CONTENTS OF KIT



10 WOODEN PEG PEOPLE



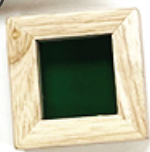
1 SMALL WOODEN RAINBOW



2 JR. RAINBOW PEBBLES



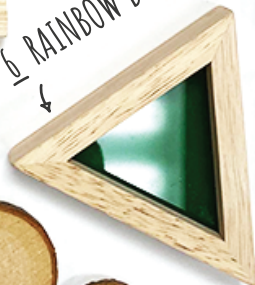
5 OUTDOOR WOODEN BLOCKS



NOTE: WOODEN BLOCKS WILL VARY IN SIZE & TEXTURE



6 RAINBOW BLOCKS



10 WOOD CRAFT ROUNDS



4 MIRROR BLOCKS

# LOOSE PARTS GUIDE

Welcome to the Wonderful World of Loose Parts! We created this box with you and your children in mind. The idea of this box is to help you fall in love with loose parts and get started!

## *WHAT ARE LOOSE PARTS?*

Loose parts as the name suggests, are loose, tactile materials that children can move around during play and as they explore, allowing them to be creative. They ignite children's curiosity, capture their interest, and allow for them to be creative and imaginative in how they choose to play! They are open-ended and in the hands of a child can become anything they desire. There is no limit to what they will create and learn.

Architect Simon Nicholson developed the theory of loose parts in the 1970s. He used the term 'loose parts' to describe open-ended materials which he believed facilitated and empowered creativity and exploration. He theorized it gave children much more freedom and creativity than that of fixed learning environments and toys with limited uses. Loose parts are natural or synthetic found, bought, or upcycled materials—acorns, hardware, stones, aluminum foil, fabric scraps, for example—that children can move, manipulate, control, and change within their play.

## *WHY LOOSE PARTS FOR LEARNING?*

Loose parts play encourages children to be creative, they help them develop skills such as critical thinking and problem-solving. Loose parts also allow children to understand success and failure as they build and play, discovering what works and what doesn't. They grow children's confidence, as they can choose how to play as there is no right or wrong way.

The point of loose parts is to give a child the chance to explore, experiment, learn, and have fun!

Through loose parts play, children can learn:

- Problem Solving
- Engineering
- Creativity
- Concentration
- Hand-eye coordination
- Fine motor development
- Gross motor development
- Language and vocabulary building
- Mathematical thinking
- Scientific thinking
- Literacy
- Social/emotional development
- Collaborative play

The simple, turns into the extraordinary, in the hands of a child. Will a pebble become a rocket ship? A block could be a castle or a mountain! The possibilities are endless.

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# ACTIVITIES



To see more guided Loose Parts Activities visit:  
[info.scholarschoice.ca/loose-parts-activities](http://info.scholarschoice.ca/loose-parts-activities)



CAN YOU MAKE THEM BALANCE?



CAN YOU MATCH THE SHAPES?



WHAT COLOURS CAN YOU SEE?

Inspiring children is important to help them discover. Although loose part play is designed to give children the opportunity to play open-endedly, we can create small prompting activities to help them engage or simply offer the loose parts and see where the play will guide their learning.

For example, you could build a house out of building blocks for the child to play with. Children will have their own creative ideas, so if they do something completely different from what you have set up do not stop them. Remember loose parts play has no right or wrong way. Here are some prompted activities for learning!

## THANK-YOU!

Thank you for delving into the world of loose parts play with us. Through play and learning we hope to help every child achieve their hopes and dreams.

We would love to see the activities and play you create with this kit! Share them with us on Facebook or Instagram by tagging @ScholarsChoice or using the hashtag #SCLoosePartsKit

Ages 3+

visit us at [scholarschoice.ca](http://scholarschoice.ca)

