



Take Teddy to the Doctor

Measure and compare to find the stretcher that fits Teddy best!

Helps Your Child Grow



Measurement

As your child measures the bear and compares several possible stretchers, they practice using measurement to make a purposeful choice.



Relationships with Adults

Working with you to choose a stretcher and carry the bear to the pretend hospital gives your child practice cooperating toward a shared goal.

Steps

- Gather a stuffed animal, three objects of different lengths to serve as stretchers - such as a pillow, blanket, and book - and choose a place at home to be the hospital, such as the sofa.
- Pretend the stuffed animal is hurt and say with urgency, "Teddy is hurt and cannot move. We need a stretcher to take Teddy to the hospital!"
- Show your child the three possible stretchers and ask, "Which one will fit best?" Suggest measuring them by hand.
- Demonstrate placing one palm after the other from Teddy's head to feet. Then let your child measure the same way and count how many hand lengths Teddy is.
- Measure the pillow, blanket, and book in the same way, then compare each measurement with Teddy's length.
- Ask, "Is this stretcher longer than Teddy, shorter, or just right?"
- Choose the best-fitting stretcher together and carry Teddy to the hospital.

Tips

- A hand span is a familiar, easy-to-use unit. Measuring with it helps your child notice that the teddy bear has a length, that other objects have lengths too, and that those lengths can be compared.
- If an object is not quite suitable, try: "That looks promising, but it may be a little short. Can Teddy lie down on it?"

Observations

- ☐ Uses the width of their palm to compare the lengths of the bear and the blanket
- ☐ Chooses a pretend stretcher for Teddy with you