

Full of Beans

Easy pea-sy things to do

Keep children's minds active even when they're not at school with these fun activities. Playtime mixes with learning exercises for the downloadable activities below which will have them discovering new shapes, letters, numbers and even animals, using beans and peas

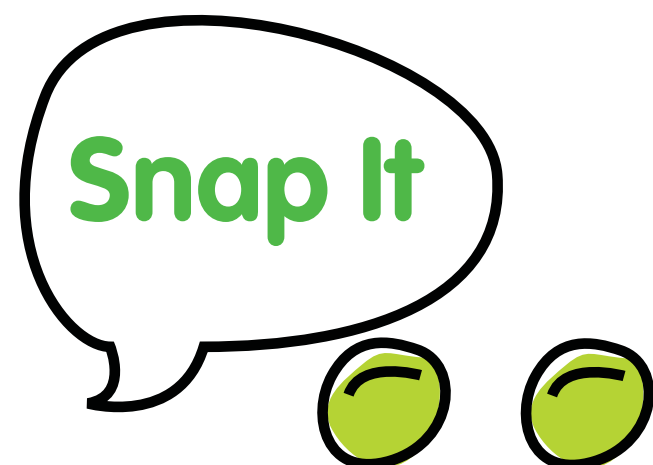
Take your pick and they'll have hours of fun.

Market Stall Holder

Role play can keep kids busy for hours so why not help them set up their own farmer's market stall. You can make it as realistic as you want it to be, building a stall inside the garden gate or using a toy wheelbarrow filled with fresh vegetables for the neighbours to buy! Add a pair of scales for weighing and give the children an old purse to collect their hard earned pennies. You can help the children put prices on a chalkboard for 'shoppers' to see and if they're only playing with friends use plastic money.

Sha-pea-n Up

What's a square, circle, rectangle or triangle? Ask the children to show you each shape by using the straight, curved and round edges of the vegetables to build shapes on a flat surface. If outside, the children can then use chalk to write the first letter or even the name of the shape on the pavement, doing the same indoors with crayons and paper.



A simple game of snap can be played which will help them learn the names of each bean and pea. The children simply hold a bean or pea behind their back, not letting the other child see it, before placing it on the surface in front of them. When each player puts down the same bean or pea they have to shout its name first to win. The winner is the child holding the most beans or peas at the end.

Mr Pea-body and Other Heavenly Creatures

Using cocktail sticks to hold vegetable bodies together ask the children to create people out of beans and peas. They can make a little family out of a pile of beans and peas, eg dwarf beans are great to use as arms and legs while peas can be feet, eyes or a head, depending on the size of the body. To make a larger body try using a potato as the base, this can also be used to make little animals or monsters by simply adding eyes, ears, hair and a tail. The bean and peas can be painted to look more realistic.

