

Push-Pull Petal Play

Inspired by: Flower “Grab It” Exhibit

Recommended Age: 12–24 months

How this supports your child’s development:

- **Fine Motor Skills** (grasping, pushing, pulling)
- **Executive Function** (figuring out how to insert or remove)
- **Cause and Effect** (learning that actions have results)
- **Language Development** (naming colors, actions, or objects)

At-Home Setup & Instructions:

Take a cardboard box and cut several holes just big enough for paper towel rolls, socks, or baby-safe tubes. Place the box upright or lay it flat. Let your toddler push items into the holes and then pull them back out again. For extra fun, stuff scarves or soft fabric pieces in the tubes and let your child “grab” them out.

Parent Tip:

Narrate what’s happening: “You pulled out the red scarf!” or “Push it all the way in!” This builds vocabulary while supporting focused attention and problem-solving.