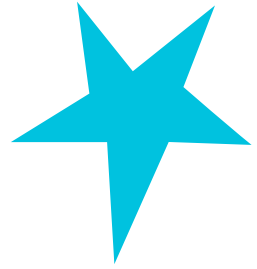




**SURPRISE,
SURPRISE!**



DETAILS

As your baby grows and develops, he/she will increasingly enjoy exploration and discovery. This activity will allow you to engage that enjoyment repeatedly.

Using a brightly colored box with a hinged or loose lid, you will be able to surprise your baby with different objects to discover.

To begin, show your baby how to open the box by demonstrating flipping up the lid. Then place one baby-safe item in the box and close the lid. Allow your baby to “find” the surprise.

Gather several types of items and change them out to keep baby’s interest. Some items that might be fun for your baby to explore are apples, balls, familiar stuffed toys, baby keys, noise makers, and a favorite cup or book.

Your baby will enjoy the surprise box. This activity will work especially well if you alternate between favorite, familiar items and interesting new objects to explore.

BENEFITS

This activity reinforces object permanence and babies enjoy opening and closing the box independently to find the object inside.

Benefits include:

- Helping with Understanding the World and Knowing What to Expect Next
- Building an Awareness that Lessens Fear When Parents are Out of Sight
- Development of Problem-solving Skills
- Development of Hand-Eye Coordination
- Encourages Manipulative Skills

Materials:

- Shoe Box with Hinged or Loose Lid
- Variety of Baby-safe Items that Fit Inside the Box