

# toddler studio:

## Meet the Shop Keeper

Today we met the museum shop manager! The shop manager decides which items to sell and helps people find special gifts to remember their trip to the museum. From buying groceries for our lunches to shopping for new school shoes, we spend lots of time exploring shops. Let's spend the day creating and playing in a shop of our own!

### CHOOSING:

What kind of pretend store would you like to open? You could stock it with toys, rocks, acorns, items from the pantry, or even your own drawings!

### ARRANGING:

Work together to set up your shop. Here are some helpful tips:

- Take turns giving and following directions.*
- Practice arranging items by color, shape, size, and pattern.*
- Make labels for your items using pictures, numbers, and letters.*
- Create your own "money" by tearing or cutting strips of paper.*
- Gather some old shopping bags or newspapers for wrapping items.*



### PLAYING:

It's time to invite people into your store! This kind of dramatic play provides an excellent opportunity to model social cues with your toddler. Asking nicely, saying "thank you," taking turns with roleplay, and asking for and offering help are all age-appropriate skills to develop while having silly fun.

## books

*Chimpanzees for Tea!*  
by Jo Empson

*Paiteiro Man* by Lucky Diaz and Micah Player

*Old Mikamba Had a Farm* by Rachel Isadora

*Ten Cents a Pound* by Nhung N. Tran-Davies and Josée Bisailon

*Quill Soup: A Stone Soup Story* by Alan Durant and Dale Blankenaar

*Berry Magic* by Teri Sloat and Betty Huffmon