

# Investigating joining

**This investigation is about joining materials. Focus on the process not the finished model. Before competing the challenge of junk model zoo animal, give them time to do this first!**

## You will need-

Boxes, tubes, card, cartons, pots, and other recycled materials. Have some big things and some smaller things.

Different sorts of tape- duct, masking, Sellotape, insulating tape.

Different types of glue

1. **Explore-** Allow your child time explore and experiment with all of the materials.
2. **Talk-** Watch and discuss with the children how they are joining different things. Help them look carefully at which ways work best.
3. **Experiment and observe-** Work alongside your child on your own model or encourage siblings to join in. Look at each others models and talk about how you have both fixed things together. Talk about which glue and which tape sticks paper best, plastic best, card best. Ask which tapes and glues are easiest to use. Try the joins again after you have painted your model.
4. **Record-** You could take some notes of what your child says. Give them paper and pens to draw what they have found out. Take some photos of the joins.

## Taking it further

Try leaving joined things in different places (such as outside, in a fridge), and see what happens to the glue. Look at the ways different things are joined- boxes, bags, books, clothes, toys etc. Look at joining toys, such as Velcro toys and magnets.

## What are the children Learning?

They are using their sense to investigate objects and materials  
They are building and constructing with a wide range of materials.

