

# Preschool Let's Play:

## Pizza Shop

### Learning Value:

Pretend play is one way children learn about and make sense of their world. Through this simple pizza shop activity, children can role play, build language, vocabulary, and early literacy skills, practice early math skills, and develop creativity and imagination.

### Materials Needed:

- ▶ Construction paper in a variety of colors or felt (for a longer lasting project)
- ▶ Baking sheet or pizza pan from your kitchen
- ▶ Paper and writing implements
- ▶ Scissors

### Participants:

This activity is intended for adult/child interaction and independent play.

### Directions:

- ▶ **Step 1:** Cut circles from tan paper or felt for a crust. Talk with your child about their preferred pizza toppings. Help your child cut shapes from the paper or felt to represent pepperoni, peppers, mushrooms, etc. You could also use play dough or natural materials, such as stones, shells, or twigs, for the pizza ingredients.
- ▶ **Step 2:** Pretend to be a restaurant customer. Ask your child to be the restaurant owner. Tell your child what kind of pizza you would like.
- ▶ **Step 3:** Show your child how to pretend to roll out a pizza, place the toppings on it, and bake it (a drawer, a box, or even under the couch will work as a pretend oven).
- ▶ **Step 4:** Older children might enjoy making menus or restaurant signs with the paper and writing implements.
- ▶ **Step 5:** Add additional props, such as a rolling pin, an apron, measuring cups, etc. Your child can use stuffed animals as restaurant patrons. Try baking some real pizza together.