

# I Have to Pull Harder

Age: Toddlers (18-36 months)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Physical, Cognitive

## What You Need:



- New (never used) toilet plungers
- Large container
- Cornstarch
- Water

## What To Do:

1. In a large container, create a thick mixture of cornstarch and water (approximately 2 parts of cornstarch to 1 part of water), making sure the bottom of the container is covered.
2. Put the plunger in the container and encourage your child to explore. You can say, "Here's a plunger in the mixture. You want to see if you can pull it out?"
3. Watch as she pulls, shakes, and moves the plunger, encouraging her efforts and problem solving skills. Talk about how the mixture created a suction that may be hard to break and encourage her to share her ideas on how to pull it out.
4. If needed, encourage her to keep trying to move the plunger and see if she can push the handle all the way into the mixture to break the suction.
5. Talk about the sound the plunger makes in the mixture and encourage her to repeat her actions over and over.

Note: This activity is best done outdoors as it could become messy.



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