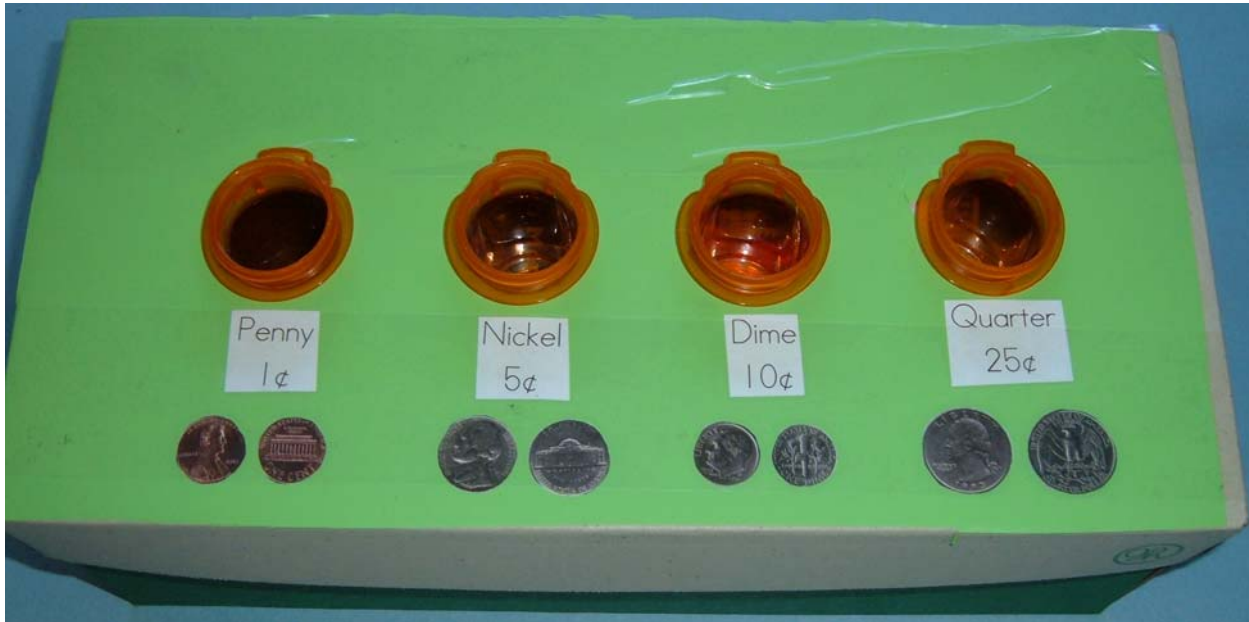
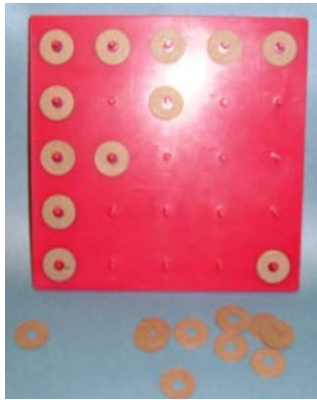


Once again, I want you to know how very grateful I am that you exist. The materials I have found at SCARCE and the ideas they generate are just wonderful. I am so excited to share those ideas with you just as I have been sharing the materials with the other teachers in my Special Needs program.



I shared a coin sorting activity using your small prescription bottles before. In that one, the bottles are hot glued onto cardboard. One of the problems with that one is the bottles can be knocked off too easily if the student using it has poor motor control. In this coin sorter, the prescription bottles are embedded into the lid of a shoe box. The lip of the bottle keeps it from falling through the hole but I hot glued on the inside of the lid as well. This one also has ready-made storage for the coins.



This is a geoboard. Usually, the geoboard is used with rubberbands to create shapes. That task is too difficult for most of our students. I found some discarded cardboard which is thick enough to withstand the students using it but not so thick that it can't go through the die cut machine to be cut into small circles. I punched holes into the circles with a regular paper hole punch for a put on activity.



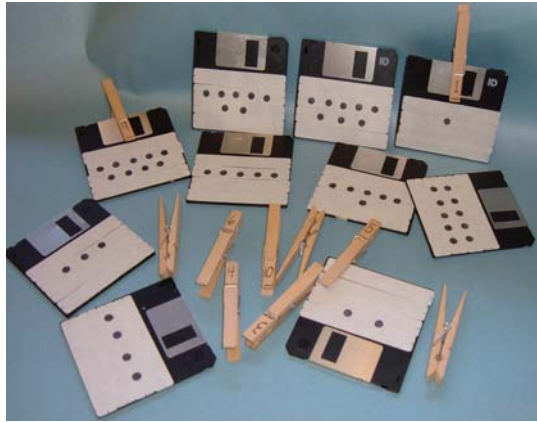
Some of the geoboards were made of clear plastic. What an opportunity! With the same die cut, I cut out construction paper circles. I glued them onto a piece of paper which fits into the back of the clear geoboard, then used your binder clips to secure it. More construction paper circles had holes punched into them for the front of the geoboard. Students can match the colors or they can extend a pattern that you have begun.



The checker board was cut in half as completing the whole board is too overwhelming for most of our students. I cut, from corrugated cardboard, using a die cut, 1.25" circles. They were colored black and red to match the squares. Each circle is affixed to the board with small amounts of Velcro. I have found that the actual checkers have raised lips around the circumference. This makes it difficult to use them with Velcro attach to the board. However...look below for a use for the checkers.



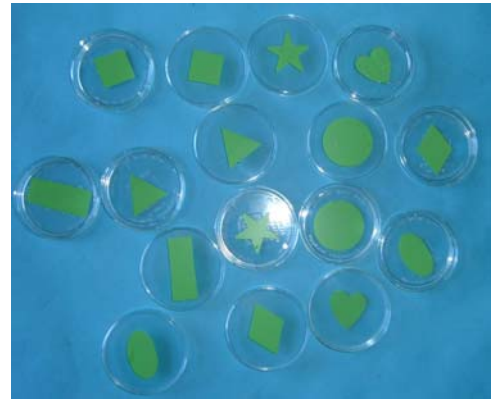
These are tennis ball cans from my son's high school tennis team. An opening is cut into the lid just big enough for the checker to fit through. The student must exert some pressure to fit the checker through the slot. In the picture, the lid has been colored black. You can also put black/red circles on the body of each container. Or, have the student figure out how to sort independently.



Diskettes are so strong and sturdy, they are wonderful for so many activities. In this one, I used file folder labels that I found at SCARCE to make a clean, easy to see surface. I used a pencil eraser and stamp pad to stamp dots onto the diskette. I wrote numerals 1-10 on the clothespins. I wrote the numerals on both sides of the clothespins facing in opposite directions. That was so a student would have the numeral right side up whether they attached the clothespin to the top or bottom of the diskette after counting.



I seem to remember that this found item was constructed originally with a beautifully made wooden box with slots. I used a keyboard box. I cut a long slit to hold the numeral board, then attached Velcro to each wooden card and the box. There were 2 numeral sets and 1 color match set.



I have used the tops and bottoms of these plastic petri dishes (?) before to match upper and lower case alphabet letters. This time I found mini die cut shapes and figures to match. I used contact paper. It lasts longer if you affix the shape/figure to the inside of the top lid of the petri dish. That way little hands aren't brushing over it or trying to pick it off.



The keychains came from SCARCE. The hook holder came from a store that was going out of business. How much simpler could it get?

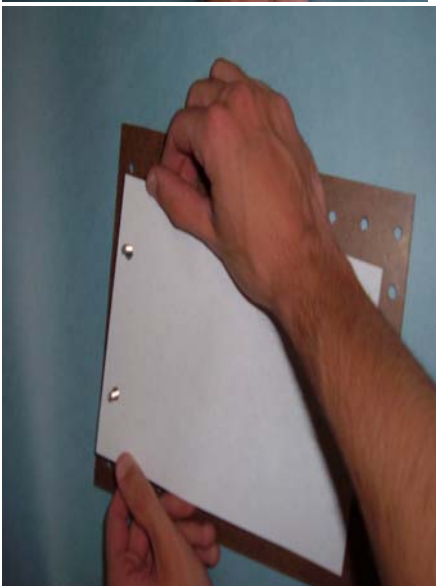


This was an incomplete parquetry set. I did find a few parquetry designs that could be completed using only the available pieces. For most of the students, they sort shapes into the appropriate food containers using the shape model picture.



I absolutely love tangram sets. They are so good for problem solving. Previously, I had found plastic tangram sets at SCARCE and used those a lot. Then, the next time, I found a whole box of tangram puzzle design worksheets. Many of the designs had just the outline of the figure so I asked my son, the one who has a tangram-a-day calendar, to draw in the lines. I colored them to highlight the puzzle figure and the students love them.

This is a great pre-vocational/assembly task. Someone donated 2 hole punches to our school. A major home improvement store donated pegboard. I scrounge the recycling boxes for whole sheets of paper to cut in half. When the student finishes the task, I can reuse the paper by cutting off only the part where the holes have been punched.



1

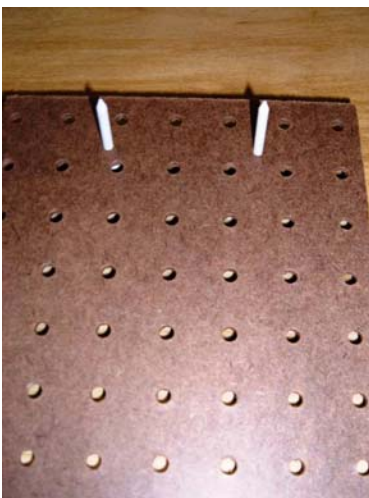
2

3

2 hole punch assembly steps

2 ways to make the paper holder.

The paper holder can be made with small nuts, bolts and washers or with golf tees hot glued on the underside, I was able to find both at SCARCE,. Blunt the tip of the golf tee so it is not so sharp.



Golf Tees



Nuts, bolts and washers