

## ***Let's Play Farm, Grocery Store, Restaurant...***

After children have been on field trips to food production or distribution facilities, or after they've read books about the people who work to make food available for them, they often enjoy pretending that they are involved in these roles. It's a lot of fun to set up role-playing environments for children, and you will find that much of the equipment can be obtained quite inexpensively by asking friends or the children's parents for usable items, or by combing through thrift shops and flea markets.

### ***Grocery Store***

Activities: Buying taking home, storing, cooking, eating foods  
Materials: Food boxes, cans, etc.  
Shopping cart or baskets, grocery bags, "money"  
Cash register  
Shelves, table, refrigerator, stove, sink



### ***Truck Drivers***

Activities: Loading and unloading boxes of food  
Driving trucks  
Materials: Truck drivers' uniform  
Clipboards  
"Trucks"  
Boxes or blocks



### ***Farmers***

Activities: Spading, planting watering, hoeing, harvesting  
Caring for animals  
Materials: Play area (preferably with dirt!)  
Buckets or watering cans  
Shovel, trowel, hoe  
Empty seed packets  
Fruit and vegetable models, baskets  
"Farm animals"



### ***Restaurant***

Activities: Preparing food for "customers"  
Providing service to customers, ordering from menus  
Settling bills  
Materials: Trays, tableware, place mats, tablecloths  
Cash register and play money  
Order pads and pencils  
Aprons, hats  
Menus (you can make these by laminating pictures of food into lightweight cardboard, or have the children make them up using pictures or words)  
Play food  
Food preparation equipment (play stove, sink, pots and pans, etc...)



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