Examples of Materials for Tinkering, Making, and Engineering

**Basic Equipment and Tools**

Child-size safety goggles, low-temperature glue guns, child-safe cardboard cutters, measuring tapes, rulers, paintbrushes, scissors, tweezers, magnifying glasses, flashlights, funnels, clipboards, staplers, unbreakable mirrors, egg timers, eyedroppers, funnels, measuring cups, trays, magnets, balance scales, balls, marbles, PVC pipe parts, pulleys, ice trays, child-size hammers, pliers, screwdrivers

**Consumables**

**Things to build with:** craft sticks, toothpicks, cardboard tubes, drinking straws, new Styrofoam trays, cardboard, pipe cleaners, wheels, wood scraps, wooden spools, plastic cups, paper plates, chopsticks or wooden skewers, corks

**Things to use to connect:** tape (masking, duct, cellophane, electrical, paper), staples and staplers, glue, glue sticks, brads, string, yarn, twine, wire, cardboard connectors (e.g., Mr. McGroovy's box rivets, www.mrmcgroovys.com), adhesive Velcro, binder clips, clothespins, rubber bands

**Things to sculpt and mold:** clay, Plasticine, playdough, modeling tools (e.g., rolling pins, scrapers)

**Things for mixing and chemistry explorations:** unbreakable cups, bowls, pitchers, beakers, and test tubes; spoons; coffee filters; food coloring; various ingredients (e.g., vinegar, baking soda, yeast); balloons; ingredients (e.g., white glue, cornstarch) for making polymers such as gak, silly putty, or oobleck

**Things to use for decoration:** pom-poms, feathers, googly eyes, stickers, glitter, fun foam, beads

**Things to use with fabrics and textiles:** thread, yarn, dull darning needles, plastic mesh canvas, weaving looms, fabric markers, buttons, thread, embroidery floss, felt

**Things to use for writing and drawing:** pencils, crayons, markers, colored pencils, pens, individual white boards, paper

**Electronics and Technology**

Batteries, battery holders, small hobby motors, flashlight bulbs, LEDs, finger lights, kits for beginning circuitry, on/off switches, buzzers