

### Episode: “Movie Night”

Albie needs to clean up and make space in the elevator before movie night, but putting things away seems like no fun. Albie visits a drumline and learns how the performers put their instruments away when they're finished using them. She even picks up some tricks for making cleaning up fun. Sometimes it feels more fun to keep playing and ignore the mess, but taking care of our space helps us feel our best!

#### Materials:

- Just you and maybe a mess!

Watch “Movie Night,” and notice how drumline performer Tony talks about cleaning up as something he does for “Tomorrow Tony.” What do you think he means by that? Tony shows Albie that a bit of creativity can make putting things away fun. As a family, give these cleaning activities a try:



### Activities

#### Clean-up Freeze Dance

Put on some music, and dance as you put away as many toys as you can. When the music stops—freeze! Once the mess is gone, point out how much space there is for a dance floor, and have a full-on dance party.

#### Color Hunt

Make cleaning up a color matching game. Pick up all the toys that match the color of your shirt. Put away toys that are each color of the rainbow. Keep picking colors, and challenge your child to put all of the colors away each time.

#### Before-and-After

Let your child play photographer, and invite them to take before-and-after photos of the space. Compare the photos and how the space looks different messy and clean.

#### Use Toys to Move Toys

Put your toys to work as part of cleaning up. Fill a dump truck with small toys to deliver to the basket, or rig a stuffed animal up to a wagon and pull the toys to their home. Kids can even pretend to be a garbage or dump truck as they clean.



### **Basketball Clean**

Let your child toss small or soft toys in a bin from a safe distance. Can they make it in the basket?

### **Clean-up Songs**

Make up your own clean-up song, or sing the clean-up songs from “Movie Night” to make putting things away go faster.

### **Beat the Clock**

How many toys can you put away before the timer buzzes? Can they get all the blocks away before the first timer goes off? What about getting all the books back on the shelf before the second timer dings?

### **Tips**

- Start small! Learning to clean up and put things away is a skill that takes time to develop, so start with smaller tasks first.
- A reward chart is a great motivator for kids. Let them add a sticker to their chart each time they clean up their toys.
- Try engaging kids in some grown-up cleaning tasks so that they feel part of the clean-up team. Helping to sort laundry, put dishes in the sink and washing windows with water and a towel are great ways to get kids involved in taking care of the family’s space.

### **In this activity, your child:**

- Practiced responsibility by cleaning up their things
- Used their imagination to try out a variety of clean up games
- Learned the importance of taking care of their space and their things

### **Talk to your child! Conversation Starters:**

- Why didn’t Albie want to clean up her things? How do you feel when it’s time to stop playing and start putting things away?
- Just like Tony cleans up for “Tomorrow Tony,” what are some things you can do to help out “Tomorrow You?”
- When your space is messy, how do you feel? When it’s cleaned up, do you notice feeling differently?

### More At-Home Activities

Visit PBS Learning Media for more activities like this inspired by *Albie's Elevator*.

### Children's Books with Related Themes

Check out these children's books online or at your local library to continue exploring the concepts in this episode.

#### **Just A Mess** by Mercer Meyer

Little Critter can't find his baseball glove because his room is such a mess! He realizes that a messy space means it's easier to lose things that are important.

#### **How Do Dinosaurs Clean Their Rooms** by Jane Yolen

A very silly book about dinos learning all about taking care of their things.

#### **Press Here** by Herve Tullet

This interactive book encourages children to follow directions in a fun and creative way.

### Vocabulary

**Organize:** To arrange or put things away in a certain order

**Responsibility:** Taking care of your things and the space that you use

