No collection? Here are some ideas for starting one!

If you have a yard or a park near where you live you can look for things to collect there. Or, take a walk around your neighborhood to find interesting things for a collection.

- Rocks — look for different shapes, sizes, and colors
- Flowers and leaves — you can dry and/or press them in a heavy book
- Bottle caps — see how many different kinds you can find
- Photos of wildlife — bugs and birds are pretty easy to “capture” on film

If you live near the beach there are lots of treasures that you can collect:

- Shells — try to find different sizes of the same shell
- Sea glass — be careful to only take pieces with smooth edges
- Driftwood — imagine where the wood came from, perhaps a shipwreck
- Sand — you can collect sand in small jars from different beaches
- Rocks — when rocks are wet their colors are more vibrant

Here are some other things that people collect that you might find in your home:

- Coins — ask the grown ups in your house if they have any interesting ones
- Stamps — check the mail every day to see what new stamps arrive on letters you receive
- Coffee mugs — you’d be surprised at how many you find in your cabinets
- Books or comics — people collect book series or books on a specific topic

Some people like to collect things from events they attend or places they visit:

- Postcards — it’s fun to see pictures of faraway places you or your family have visited
- Pins or magnets — maybe they are all together on a piece of clothing or the fridge
- Money — money from around the world comes in many shapes, sizes, and colors
- Ticket stubs — for airplane flights, music concerts, museum visits, movies, etc.
- T-shirts or hats — from places you visited, camps you attended, or activities you do

You don’t need much to start a collection—just a few objects and some imagination!