

Activity Sheet

Memory

Support children with their early language and literacy skills by playing a simple game of memory using items that can be found around the house. Support your child to select a variety of items such as hairbrush, toy, block, car, spoon, cup, etc.

Place these items in front of your child and support them to use their communication and problem solving skills to label what they can see. Ask them a range of questions to help them to memorise what they have seen. Remove 1 or more objects and ask your child a range of open-ended questions about the items missing to support them in making predictions about what item has been removed.

What you will need:

Some examples are:

- material or blanket to cover the items collected
- spoons
- teddies
- blocks
- cars
- cups

This activity can help children to:

- use language to respond to questions
- engage with a range of resources from the world around them
- develop hand-eye coordination
- develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation and confidence
- understand commitment, enthusiasm and persistence
- develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, enquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating
- provide an opportunity to develop their language skills

Children will enjoy making predictions, asking questions, engaging in a fun and simple experience whilst extending on their communication skills. Families can support children with their language by labelling and offering long pauses after each question to allow your child time to make predictions.

Just remember that safety comes first when providing small objects, any items for children under three are larger than 5cm diameter so that they cannot be swallowed and activity is supervised by an adult.

Adults can support children by:

- brainstorm with your child the items they can see
- supporting children to explore and ask questions at a pace they are comfortable with
- offering an age appropriate number of objects
- joining in and providing encouragement, advice, support and demonstrations as needed
- modelling language that goes with the play
- providing a safe and secure environment

