

RAFT IDEAS

Topics: Pre-K and K
classifying activity

Materials List

- ✓ Coffee cup lids, blank cards, or something that can be flipped
- ✓ Paper (or label paper)
- ✓ Glue (optional)
- ✓ Pictures

This activity can be used to teach:

CO Math Standard 1:
Number Sense, Properties and Operations

- Classifying
- 1-to-1 correspondence

Grades: pk, k
CO Reading, Writing, and Communicating Standard 2: Reading for All

Purposes

- Accuracy and Speed in letter, symbol and object recognition

Grades: pk, k

Linking lids

A concentration game for preschool and kindergarten



In this game children develop their memorization skills while strengthening their discrimination skills by finding common pictures.

Assembly

1. Make two copies of each picture that you want to use in the matching game.
2. Stick these pictures to the underside of coffee cup lids. (pictures printed on label paper do not require the use of glue!)

Playing the Game (for 2 or more players)

1. Shuffle the lids and arrange them face-down in an array.
2. Players take turns to turn over 2 lids, one at a time. If they match, the player keeps the pair. If they do not match lids are turned face down again.
3. Play continues until all lids are paired.

The Literacy and Math Behind the Activity

Young children need opportunities to **apply** the skills and knowledge they are acquiring in literacy and math. Playing developmentally appropriate games such as **Concentration** provides them with a hands-on experience to apply to their developing concepts. Playing this game:

- Develops numerical thinking skills (counting, computing)
- Teaches shape recognition and letter recognition
- Builds the foundation for understanding one-to-one correspondence
- Develops problem-solving abilities
- Develops logical-thinking skills
- Encourages discussion and cooperative learning
- Provides experience in self-regulation and taking turns

Taking it Further

For a greater challenge more lids can be created to increase the length and complexity of the game, e.g. 36 lids (18 pairs) arranged as a 6 by 6 array.

Tips for Introducing Games to Young Children

1. Start with 2 players to introduce the game. Add more players as children come to know the rules and can wait to take turns.
2. Keep the game simple in the beginning (16 cards), increasing the complexity as children master the concept.
3. Encourage children to verbalize their moves. When they talk out loud to themselves it helps them to process the information.
4. Help children negotiate and modify rules or construct their own rules.
5. Develop ideas for making a rule about who goes first so everyone gets a turn.