



THE FAMILY CONNECTION

Activity #35 “Sorting Toys by Color”

You will need: Red, blue, yellow and green plastic bowls
At least three each of red, yellow, blue and green plastic toys such as cars, animals or bugs
A small basket or plastic storage container

Before you begin:

- Clear a space on a child sized table or coffee table
 - Place the four bowls and the basket of toys on the table.
 - Allow your child to play with and explore the toy collection.
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Try this!

- Talk with your child about the red, blue, green and yellow bowls and the toys. Ask him to show you a red toy. Then ask him, “*Where is the red bowl?*”
- Ask him to put a toy in the bowl of the matching color. For example, ask, “*Can you put the blue car in the blue bowl?*”
- Allow him to place the toys anywhere he wants if he is enjoying playing with them.
Talk with him about the colors of the toys as he plays with them. “*I see you’ve lined up your cars.*” Touch each car and say, “*That’s a blue car, a red car, a green car and two yellow ones.*” “*Are you going to race your cars?*”
- Play this game at other times with your child. Eventually he should be able to match the toys to the bowls. Celebrate your child’s progress with claps and cheers.

Try this variation of the activity!

- Look at the sorted toys and say, “*Let’s count the blue cars.*”
- Count the toys. Say, “*Look, you have three blue cars. 1, 2, 3.*” Touch each car while saying the number. “*Are you ready for a NASCAR race? Start your engines. Rummmm, Rummmm, Rummmm!*”
- Encourage your toddler to help you count the toys as you put them back in the basket.
- Find other colorful toys such as plastic dinosaurs or balls to sort by color and to count.