

# Starting to match

**Age:** 21-30 months

## Resources:

- Items around the home that can be paired or grouped either by type, colour or texture.
- A shape-sorter toy.

## Tips:

Encouraging your child to match objects can be fun and is a simple activity to do around the home. As well as learning to match, you can also use these activities to encourage your child to explore and learn about texture, colour, shape and size.

## Activity:

Keep the game simple to start with, matching like for like:

- **Pairing basket** – put a few paired household items in a basket and encourage your child to pull the pairs out (spoons, toothbrushes, shoes, gloves).
- **Fruit in a bowl** – mixing fruit up on the table and then ask your child to place in pairs. This activity is great for talking about colour, texture and smell.

As your child starts to develop their skills, you can add more pairs of the same object type:

- **Matching** pairs of shoes. This is a good way to talk about size, colour, left and right.
- **Matching** socks. This can be done by size, colour, or texture.
- **Pairing** shapes cut out of card.
- **Sorting** different coloured counters into tins.

Using a shape sorter is a good way to introduce different shapes and colour, as well as matching shapes to a hole. At first, your child may need some help to match the shape with the hole and to correctly align the objects for them to fall through.



### **Notes:**

Please supervise your child at all times while completing any of the activities outlined on this sheet. Stop any activity if your child becomes upset, unwell or you are unsure if you are completing it correctly.

The activities on this card align with stage 4 of the [Developmental Journal Babies Visual Impairment \(DJVI\)](#)

If you would like any further advice or support, please contact the advice line on **0800 7811444** or via email [children@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:children@guidedogs.org.uk)