

Memory Match

Primary Objectives

3a. Balances needs and rights of self and others

Why It's Important

Adult involvement is essential as a child learns to share and play with other children. Because your child has not yet fully gained the social skills necessary to comfortably and confidently participate in a one-on-one game with another child, he needs adult support to practice his developing skills.

Materials

Memory match game (set of cards with several matching pairs of shapes, colors, animals, objects, etc.)

What You Do

1. Place the cards on a table where anyone playing the game can comfortably reach them. Arrange them in rows, face down, with a small space between each one. Start with only a few matching sets, and add more as is age-appropriate for your child.
2. Invite your child and another child to play the memory match game. Explain that each child gets a turn to flip over two cards to see if they match. The game is over when all matching pairs have been found.
3. Observe as the children play, offering as little assistance as possible. Stay close to ensure that the game progresses smoothly.
4. Expect to reinforce the idea of taking turns if your child wants to play out of turn. *I understand you are anxious to have another turn. Let's watch to see what cards Max turns over. Maybe that will help you choose a pair of matching cards when it is your turn again!*
5. When the game is finished, allow both children to work together to put the game away. If they want to play again, help them shuffle the cards and set up the game.