

# Other things to try: 2d

## Matching two objects together

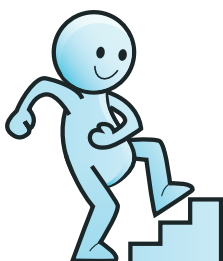


### Why is this important?

Matching objects encourages children to further develop symbolic understanding to sort objects according to their appearance. By matching items, children begin to realise that objects which have the same function can look slightly different and are still essentially the same (e.g. two different coloured pencils, a big cup vs. a small cup).

### What to do

- Get two sets of matching objects (e.g. two spoons, two pencils, two balls).
- Place two objects on the floor (e.g. spoon and ball).
- Give the child a corresponding object (e.g. ball) and encourage him/her to put it with the matching object.



### Step up

- Introduce objects which are slightly different (e.g. one pink and one blue pencil, two different-sized spoons).
- Introduce objects from similar groups (e.g. two cups and two plates).
- Encourage the child to help sort the washing and find the matching socks.
- In a farmyard game, put all the animals in the right fields (e.g. the sheep together and the cows together).
- Put toy cutlery in the home corner cutlery tray.
- Put the child's cups and plates away after meal or snack time.

### Step down

- Place items in hoops or boxes with an identical one you have already put there.
- Make sure the objects are exactly the same and that there are lots of them so there are lots of opportunities for repetition.
- Guide the child's hand to place the object in the correct place.

