Other things to try: 2e

Matching something to the picture it represents



Why is this important?



Matching objects to photos or pictures helps children understand that objects exist in other forms and this helps develop symbolic skills further.

What to do

- Collect a set of objects/toys and a corresponding set of pictures (e.g. a toy car and a picture of a toy car).
- Put out two pictures (e.g. car and spoon).
- Give the child an object (e.g. spoon) and encourage him/her to put it with the corresponding picture.



Step up

- Increase the number of pictures to choose from.
- Introduce pictures which are slightly different from the object (e.g. a toy duck with a picture of a real duck).
- Use objects/pictures with similar functions (e.g. two different animals, a spoon and a fork, a car and a bus).
- Use two identical pictures and match these together.
- Play simple lotto games where, for example, a child has four pictures. Put
 the corresponding objects into a bag. Take it in turns to delve into the
 bag, find an item and match it to the picture. When the child can do this
 with objects, try with two matching sets of pictures.

Step down

- Use the child's own objects and photographs of him/herself.
- Take photos of actual objects you have and use these before moving on to pictures.
- Guide the child's hand to place the object with the correct picture.

