



## Playing with Data (matching, sorting, classifying, graphing)

This involves collection, organizing, and presenting information in a lot of ways. Working with data includes matching objects, recognizing same and different, sorting objects into groups, making collections, and using charts and graphs.

### Some Books

*Five Creatures*, by Emily Jenkins

*Lemons are Not Red*, by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

*How Many Snails?* By Paul Giganti Jr.

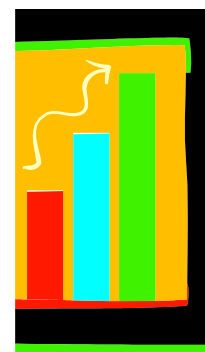
*Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Blue?* by Tana Hoban

*Bread, Bread, Bread*, by Ann Morris

*Hannah's Collections*, by Marthe Jocelyn

### Some Activities

1. When you are cleaning up, show your child where things go, such as “All the pans go in this cupboard, and all the lids go in the drawer” or “All the socks go in this pile.” Practice sorting things into groups.
2. Give your child collections of things that can be sorted in different ways, such as plastic animals, shells, buttons, pinecones, rocks, etc. to explore ways to group things together.
3. See if your child can sort toys or shoes or clothes by color or size. (All red here, all not red there.) Talk about quantity by matching the items from one pile with the other pile. Are there more in this pile or that pile?
4. Make charts about all sorts of things: weather, family jobs, feeding the dog, favorite colors or ice cream flavors. This helps your child see how we communicate information so that others can understand it.
5. Make grocery lists together and put items into groups. All fresh produce in one column, all canned items in another, dairy, cereals, etc.
6. When putting groceries away, let your child help you sort items into all the things that go in the refrigerator, all the items that go in the freezer, and those that go in the cupboard.
7. Play with objects in the bathtub and put into two groups: all the things that float and all the things that don't float. Let your child suggest other items to try.
8. After reading *Five Creatures* by Emily Jenkins, make your own family graph with similar characteristics like hair and eye color, food preferences, etc. Use stickers or stamps to chart how many in the family can read or how many like fish.



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Fun with Math & Science

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