

What's My Rule?

You and your child sort and re-sort a collection of objects.

Science Connections

Sorting a collection of objects by different attributes (characteristics)
Observing and talking about the physical characteristics of objects



What's Needed

The collection of objects included in your *Mother Goose Asks "Why?"* kit.

How To Do It

1 Together, explore the collection of objects. Look at, touch and talk about the attributes (characteristics) of the different objects.

Find attributes that will help you sort the objects: colors, shapes, sizes, types of material, textures, function (for attaching things, used in the kitchen, etc). Talk with your child about the words *same* and *different*.

2. Choose an attribute to sort by. For example, all the shiny objects or all the objects made of wood or all the objects that are tools.

3. After you've placed the objects you've sorted in a sorting loop talk about your sorting rule. An example might be "all shiny" or "all wood."

4. Take turns choosing an attribute and sorting in a sorting loop and asking "What's my rule?"

5. Sort and re-sort the objects.

Another Idea to Try

Sort collections of objects in your home: stuffed animals, books, clothes, recyclables, rocks, acorns, pinecones, feathers or flowers.