



Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities below are related to *What Would You Rather Be?*, the unit we are currently working on in math. Doing these activities together with an adult will help enrich your child's mathematical learning.

Sorting Work with your child to figure out what belongings go together and where they should “live.” (Sorting things at home has the side benefit of helping your child clean up and get organized!) Listen to your child's system for organizing. Children love to make labels to go on their bins or boxes. *The Berenstain Bears and the Messy Room* is an excellent book for this project.

Grouping Coins Children enjoy going through loose change and grouping similar coins together. A simple way to get started is to spread out a handful of change and then ask your child to put together coins that are the same. Then your child can count the number of coins in each pile. Help your child figure out answers to questions such as “Which pile has the most? The fewest? Are there more pennies or dimes?”

Which Has More? On a trip to a park or in a car, bus, or train, bring along a tablet and pencil to play “Which has more?” Begin by posing a question: “Which do you think we will see more of in the next five minutes: _____ or _____?” Depending on your surroundings, you might choose pairs such as bicycle riders or joggers, trucks or buses, cows or horses. Your child will have ideas too! Help your child choose things that give enough to count—about 10 or 15 of each object. If the count is too low to be of interest, you might extend the time limit. The important thing is that your child keeps track (using tally marks, numbers, pictures, words, and so on), accurately counts, and then compares the results.

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Guess My Rule One player thinks of a secret rule and names a few objects that follow the rule (e.g., a clock, a wheel). The others ask questions about other objects that might follow the rule, such as “Does a penny follow the rule?” After three turns in a row in which players correctly identify items that fit the rule, they can begin guessing the rule (i.e., things that are round). Different family members can take turns thinking of a rule while the others guess.

Math and Literature Here are some suggestions of children’s books that are related to our work on data.

Baer, Edith. *This Is the Way We Eat Our Lunch.*

Berenstain, Jan and Stan. *The Berenstain Bears and the Messy Room*

Burningham, John. *Would You Rather*

Lobel, Arnold. “A Lost Button,” in *Frog and Toad Are Friends.*

Murphy, Stuart. *The Best Vacation Ever.*

Pluckrose, Henry. *Math Counts: Sorting.*

Reid, Margarette S. *The Button Box.*

