

Sorting by Size-Infant/Toddler Math Activity

<https://theimaginationtree.com/count-and-sort-posting-box-maths-game/>

Things You Need:

- Shoe box
- Variety of bottle tops and lids of different diameters and thicknesses

Making This Activity:

Start by collecting lids and bottle tops of different diameter and different color. Wrap the shoe box from all the sides to make this more appealing. Using a craft knife, cut out slots in box to fit a size of a group of lids (one slot for a group of lids). Sort lids in groups by size and cover your lids with the matching color paper or masking tape. Apply the same color around the hole as an indicator of which one belongs where. Write the corresponding number of the lids next to each color slot.

Playing this Game:

The enduring appeal of dropping and posting through holes will make this a real favorite game for toddlers and preschoolers. Have children open the box and group lids by size and then post them in the slots. As they push the lids inside, count lids in order from 1 to 5 and help them identify the numbers on the box. Also, as children experiment and work on fitting the lids in the correct spots provide them with the vocabulary. For example, “this lid doesn’t fit in this slot because it is too small or it’s too thick,” etc.



Skills that children develop during this activity:

- recognizing numerals,
- matching by color and size,
- comparing and ordering by size,
- counting using 1:1 correspondence,
- counting up to 5 objects,
- problem solving, making things fit
- fine motor, twisting and rotating objects,
- concentration, perseverance, task completion