

Maths: Vocabulary and Questions: Sorting and Matching

Key Vocabulary to use / encourage: **sort, group, object, same, different, odd one out, size, shape, colour, pattern.**

What is the same / different?

How could you sort....

Can you describe / explain...

How do you know?

What words can you use to describe this object?

♪ *Maths is all around us, and so the wonder grows!* ♪

General maths: Can you sort these into two groups?
Is there another way we can sort...
How have you sorted / grouped...
Have these items been sorted correctly?
What is the same about the items in my set / group?
Can you guess my rule? Can you think of a different rule?
Which one doesn't belong? Odd one out?

Construction: Can we build towers that match?
Home corner: Can they sort the cutlery, plates, cups? Do our cups match? Can they sort them by type?
How could we sort the food?

Common Misconceptions

When asking children to talk about what is the same / different or to spot how you have sorted items, they may only notice the differences or spot the reason why when they are arranged into two very obvious groups – such as cups and plates or different colour.
Some children may only ever sort things by name rather than thinking deeper and looking at other characteristics.