



PLAY: Relational 3 [R3]

Child puts several toys together in specific ways

Purpose

- To help your child learn how to put objects and toys together in specific ways (e.g., by sorting or putting in order)

Description

This occurs when the child puts pieces of a toy or multiple toys together in more perceptually complex ways, such as sorting or putting an object into something that requires a specific orientation. Putting toys together in more complex ways shows that the child is furthering his/her understanding of important perceptual features and how objects relate to each other.

- Puts blocks together to make a specific feature
- Stacks the nesting cups in the intended order
- Puts manipulatives into containers based on shape, size, or color
- Places puzzle pieces in the correct place

Activities

- *Laundry:* Have your child help you sort laundry and put it away by type (shirts, pants, etc) or by family member (daddy's clothes, brother's clothes).
- *Cleaning Up:* Sort toys into specific containers by the color, shape, or type of toy. You can put pictures of the toys that go in the containers on the containers to help the child know what goes where.
- *Cleaning out the Dishwasher:* Your child can sort cups by color or help sort plates and bowls by size



- *Playtime:* You can use large beads on a string to make a necklace or bracelet. Sort the beads by color, shape, or size as you play. You can separate toy animals by size into “big/little” or blocks by color.

Strategies

- *Arrange environment* – leave toys with pieces that go together in specific ways out in play areas for your child to access
- *Reward your child* – exaggerate your excitement when your child puts toys together (e.g., giving the child a high five, clapping)
- *Model play with animation* – demonstrate to your child how to put toys together with exaggerated sounds, faces, and movements to help draw your child’s attention to you
- *Provide Visuals* – show child pictures displaying how to put toys together and leave them in the play area so child may access the pictures to put many toys together at once

Suggested Toys

- Kitchen toys
- Beads and string
- Toy animals/dinosaurs
- Blocks
- Puzzles

Goal Mastery

An ASAP Goal is mastered if your child meets ALL of the following criteria:

- Shows the skill at least three times
- Shows the skill during different activities or in different settings such as during snack time, during playtime, or at the grocery store.
- Shows the skill with minimal help or support from an adult