

The Button Box

How can you sort Grandma's button box?

Math Connections: Use this book to discuss:

- Classification
- Comparison
- Counting

Activities to Do Together:

- Create a special collection of objects: baseball cards, coins, or seashells, for example
- Talk with your child about collections. Talk about collections in kitchens, for example, silverware in a drawer, food on a shelf, or pots and pans in a cupboard.
- Sort a group of objects by a common characteristic.
- Take a nature walk and collect pebbles, rocks or leaves to make a nature collection. Find different ways to sort your collection.

Extension Questions:

1. What types of buttons does the boy describe?
2. How did he sort the buttons?
3. Which buttons look alike? Which buttons are different?
4. How do you know two buttons are alike?
5. What are some words you could use to describe the buttons that you have seen?
6. If a person has six buttons and each button has two holes, how many holes do the six buttons have all together

Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts:

alike, big, first, flat, four, little, new, next, old, pattern, round, sort, ten, thick, thin, two

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Find many ways to sort and count buttons in Grandma's button box. Discover the different materials buttons are made of and their many uses. The boy in this story describes a variety of buttons that he sorts, counts, and compares.

Ages: 3 to 6 years

Interest Level:

PreK-1st grade

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Copyright: 1990

Related Books: *Sorting* by Henry Pluckrose and *A Pair of Socks* by Stuart J. Murphy

Spanish Title: La caja de los botones

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ISBN: 978-0140556421



Early Math Project Resources: For additional activities on sorting, see Seed Sorting, Button Sorting, and Sock Sorting activities on the Early Math Project Web site: www.EarlyMathCA.org

Button Sorting:

English: <https://bit.ly/2G6yuPQ>

Spanish: <https://bit.ly/2SAdFNP>

Seed sorting:

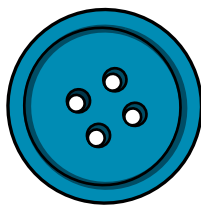
English: <https://bit.ly/2KLjdSn>

Spanish: <https://bit.ly/2KHCirK>

Sock sorting:

English: <https://bit.ly/2QDFMhX>

Spanish: <https://bit.ly/2G6lhVR>



Suggested Activities:

1. Find three different ways to sort the buttons.
2. Gather a group of buttons and ask your child to sort the buttons. After your child sorts them, guess how the buttons were sorted or have your child explain how he or she sorted the buttons.
3. Sort the collection of buttons. Ask the child to figure out and explain how he or she thinks the buttons were sorted



Please note buttons can pose a choking hazard. These activities are not intended for children under the age of three.

