

Color and Number Cards

Game 188

Let your child and a sibling follow directions that contain color and number words and sometimes have more than one step.

Your child will have more experiences with precise directions, like these, in school and in life.



Why this is important

By now, your 4-year-old child recognizes most color words and some number words and probably uses some of them in daily conversation. However, he will need practice to understand these words when they are included in a set of school-like directions. Practice in quickly identifying numbers and letters on paper prepares your child to later learn to read.

What you do

- Invite your child and a sibling to play a game with you. Tell the children they will need to listen carefully and remember their colors and numbers.
- Give each child a set of small cards to spread out on the table. Each card should have a color or number printed on it. Start with just three colors and the numbers one through five.
- Ask questions that encourage them to recognize colors and numbers. A few examples are:

Put your finger on the number two.

Pick up the red card.

Put one, two, and three in a row.

Hand me two colors.

Can you touch red? Three? Blue? One?

- Offer enthusiastic encouragement during the game: *Good listening! You followed all three parts of that direction!*

Another idea

Change the game by adding more colors and numbers. You can also add letter cards to make the game more challenging.