

# Scavenger Ball

## Primary Objectives

13. Uses classification skills

## Why It's Important

As your child attempts to make sense of his world, he begins to recognize similarities between objects and group or sort them by color, shape, size, or use. Using toys and games to build on these skills is a fun way to support your child's increasing ability to compare objects and to classify those that have similar characteristics.

## Materials

Grocery bag; large basket

## What You Do

1. Invite your child to go on a scavenger hunt around the house. Let him know that he is going to collect the items as he finds them and put them in the shopping bag.
2. Ask your child to go around the house and collect all of the round objects he can find.
3. When he is finished, set up the baskets or tubs in a row. Invite your child to lay out his collection of objects so they can all be seen together. Ask questions that prompt him to think of the various ways the objects can be grouped. *We know that all of these are round, but what else do you notice about them?*
4. Encourage your child to sort the objects by size, color, or use. Observe how many ways he can think of to group and compare the items.
5. After your child has sorted the objects by one characteristic, encourage him to sort them again. *Can you think of a different way to group these? Now that you sorted them by color, how could you sort them again? Yes, you can sort them further by looking at their sizes.*
6. Invite your child to explain his groupings when he is finished. Have him help you return the items to the proper place in the house.
7. Look for other opportunities throughout the day for your child to sort objects.