

Spring Cleaning

Primary Objectives

13. Uses classification skills

Why It's Important

Cleanup time can be fun, and it will teach your child organizational skills as he sorts his toys and talks about the resulting groups.

Materials

Paper; markers; beads of various colors, shapes, and sizes; large containers

What You Do

1. Ask your child to help you organize his toy shelf. Place a large collection of toys on the table and ask your child to make some suggestions for organizing the toys so he and his playmates can easily find what they need.
2. Take note of his suggestions and then ask him to sort the toys into various containers: *I like your idea for sorting the dollhouse parts and the parts to the marble ramp. Can you show me how you will sort them in these containers?*
3. Talk about how to make the toys easy to find in the containers. Suggest making word or picture labels for the containers. Encourage your child to help you label each container by drawing a picture to attach to the front. Write the name of the toy next to his picture. *You drew a puzzle piece, so I will write 'Puzzles' next to your picture.*
4. Look for other opportunities for your child to sort collections around the house as a way to help you organize.