

William Murdoch Primary School



MEMORY ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of activities that will help children's memory skills. Learning is process of understanding and retrieving.

Children need to build their memory skills in order to be able to retrieve learning concepts.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	HOW TO MAKE IT EASIER	HOW TO MAKE IT MORE CHALLENGING
Missing Items	Place a number of items in a tray. Let the child look at the items carefully. Cover the tray and remove one item without the child seeing. Can they guess which item is missing?	Decrease the number of items in the tray to begin with.	Increase the number of items in the tray. Remove more than one item at a time.
Remember what's in the tray	Place a number of items in the tray. Let the child examine the tray, the amount of time you give will be dependent on how easy or hard the child finds the activity or how many items you choose to place in the tray. Cover the tray and ask the child to list or draw all the items in the tray.	Give the child a list of items and they must decide if they were in the tray or not.	Use similar objects to make it more challenging, for example cars of a particular colour. Increase the number of items in the tray.
Pairs	The classic card game. Shuffle the deck and place all cards facing down. Each player takes it in turns to pick two cards, if they are a pair, they get another go and if they are not the cards are placed back down in their original places for the next person to have a go. The person with the most pairs at the end wins.	Only play with two suits to reduce the number of cards. Children match suits and not numbers.	Children must match the number and the colour.

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Jumbled Cards	Pick five random cards; you can use a pack of playing cards. Place them in a line. Allow the child to look at the cards carefully Jumble the cards and ask the child to place them back in the correct order. Once the child is able to do this easily, increase the number of cards you start with.	Use fewer cards to begin with. Only jumble some of the cards and leave some in their original places.	Remove the cards and ask the child to say the cards in order. Remove the cards and ask the child to say the cards in reverse order.
Sound Chain Game	This games builds on auditory memory. The adult starts by creating a pattern using clapping and clicking. The next person repeats the pattern and adds a new sound. If the player cannot complete the pattern of repeats in correctly they have to step out the game. The final player is declared the winner.	Say the words of the action to help support the repetitions, e.g. click, click, clap	Add more actions such as stamping feet
Round Robin	This is a creative memory games that will help the children with English skills too. The aim of this game is to create a story. The first player says the initial sentence of the story and then next player must repeat the sentence before and add their own. You continue to do this until a player cannot remember the sentence before or cannot remember what happened in the story.	Give the children an outline of the story so they do not need to worry about the plot.	Ask children to repeat the two sentences prior. Challenge children to include certain elements to their story. For example each sentence must have an adjective.