Where's the Other Slipper?

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Cognitive

What You Need:



Pairs of slippers and shoes

What To Do:

- 1. Put several pairs of slippers or shoes into a pile and explain to your child what a "pair" is.
- 2. Pull one slipper or shoe out of the pile. Ask your child to find the matching slipper or shoe.
- 3. Have her continue until each "pair" is matched.
- 4. Talk about why they match. For example, "These two slippers are the same length and color."
- 5. After she has matched all the shoes or slippers, ask her to count the number of pairs she has.
- 6. Ask her, "If one person wears a pair of slippers or shoes, how many people could wear the shoes and slippers you have here?" It is more important that she think about how to "solve" the problem than it is for her to give you the correct answer. (To help, count the pairs again, this time linking each pair with a person.)

VARIATION:

Do the same activity with socks. While folding laundry, ask your child to match all of the socks. Encourage her to talk about why some match and others do not. Help her count how many pairs of socks there are. Ask her, "If one person wears





one pair of socks, how many people could wear the number of pairs of socks that are folded?" Count the pairs with her.



