

Visual Learning Activities

for Visual Learners Ages 3-6

Locks and Keys

Some of the best learning activities are done with household items that children are drawn to. The jingle jangle of keys and locks is very enticing and a basket full of locks and keys will certainly get your child's attention. Children will develop patience, experience with trial and error and hand eye coordination, while learning how to open and close different locks using keys.



Materials Needed:

Basket or box
Several locks & corresponding keys
(gather a variety of locks and keys to make more interesting and help develop discrimination skills)

Action:

Have all locks and key in one attractive basket or container. Be sure locks are locked and matching keys are in the basket. Child will place all locks on the table, then try one key in each lock until they find the one it opens. Continue the process until all locks have been opened.

Presentation:

- Invite child to the activity.
- Have them sit down and invite their attention in a fun, calm manner.
- Demonstrate the activity yourself first
- Pick up each lock and set them out on the table
- Choose one key from the tray
- Try the key in one lock, and then repeat until you find a match
- Repeat this for all locks
- When all of the locks are unlocked, take the keys out of the locks and relock them on at a time
- Place all locks back in basket or container
- Invite child to do next

Variations: Change the basket or the locks inside the basket from time to time. Once a child has good understanding and experience, may want to eliminate one lock or key to have them spend a bit more time problem solving.

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