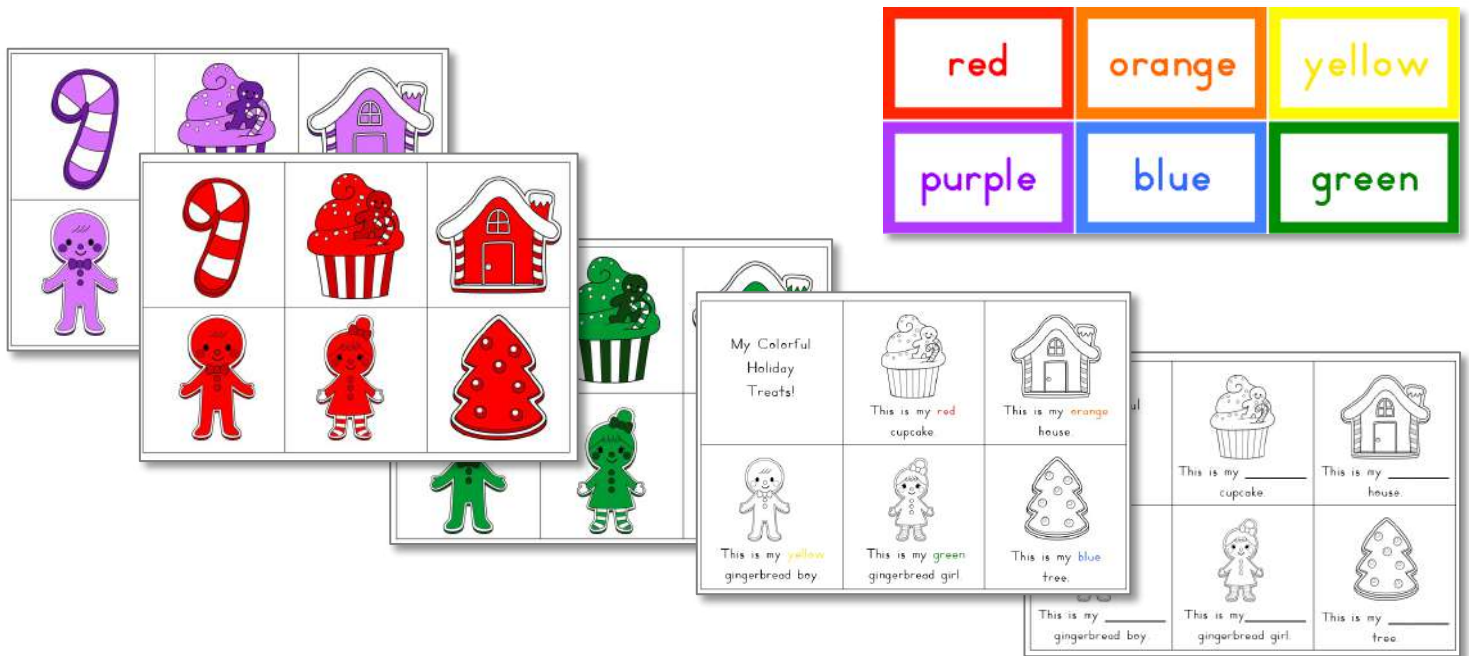


Skill: Visual Discrimination

Sorting by Color



Two options for printing are included. Print the colored cards or use the ink-saver option to print on colored paper.

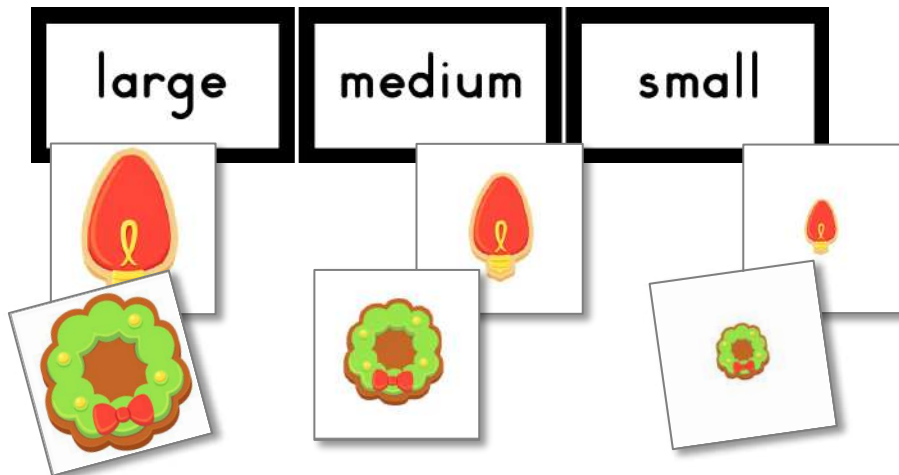
Sort by color on felt mats, or in rows/columns. Use the color labels to teach color words. If you have access to the Montessori Color Box 2, the children can look for the matching color tablets. If not, you can pick up some paint swatches and use those for matching.

Extension: Make a little emergent reader booklet by coloring and cutting out the pictures.

Skill: Visual Discrimination

Sorting by Size

Cut out the cards. Sort into three columns by size. You may want to use felt mats instead of columns. Two sets of labels are provided: Large-Medium-Small, Big-Medium-Little



Shadow Matching

This is a simple matching activity. I like to use these to emphasize the layout procedure, focusing on left to right and top to bottom formatting. Separate into two sets. You may want to place a color-coding dot on the back so the children can put them back into the separate sets once they are done. Place one set of cards in a line along the top of a rug or table, starting from the left. Pick up a random card from the other set and place below the first card on the rug. Does it match? If yes, leave it there. If not, slide it to the right, below the next card. Does it match? Continue on. The process of lining up the cards and sliding from left to right helps prepare the child for later reading activities.



Skill: Oral Language Development

Comprehension: Following Directions

This is fun to play with a small group of children to help with comprehension and following a sequence of steps. This set has three levels of difficulty- ranging from 1-step directions to 3-step directions.



Vocabulary and Inferencing: The Question Game



Cut out the cards. Distribute the pictures among a small group of children. Name each picture and talk about it together. Draw a question card and let the children use the clues to identify the correct picture. Encourage children to create their own questions/riddles based on what they know and what they can see in the picture.

Skill: Concept Development

Category Sorting

Cut apart the image cards. Sort onto the correct mats.

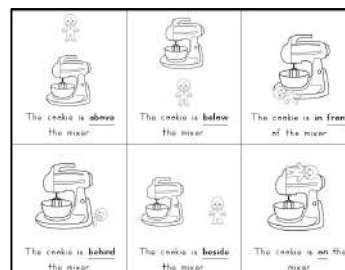


Prepositions (Where is it?)



Line up the picture cards along the bottom of the rug or table, or distribute among a group of students. Read one of the labels. Child finds the correct picture card to go with the label. Put picture and label at the top of the rug or table.

Extension: Make an emergent reader booklet with the provided blacklines.

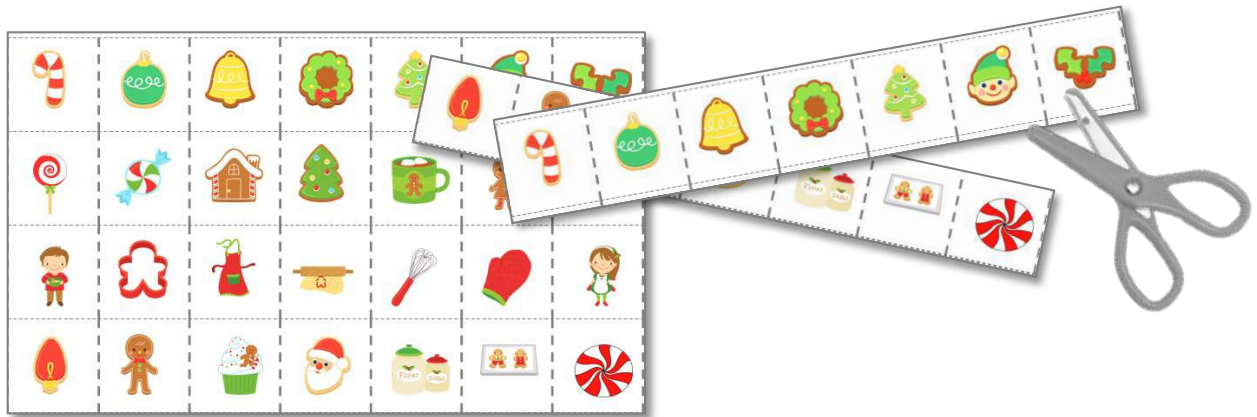


Cutting with Scissors

Print on paper in color or grayscale, as desired.

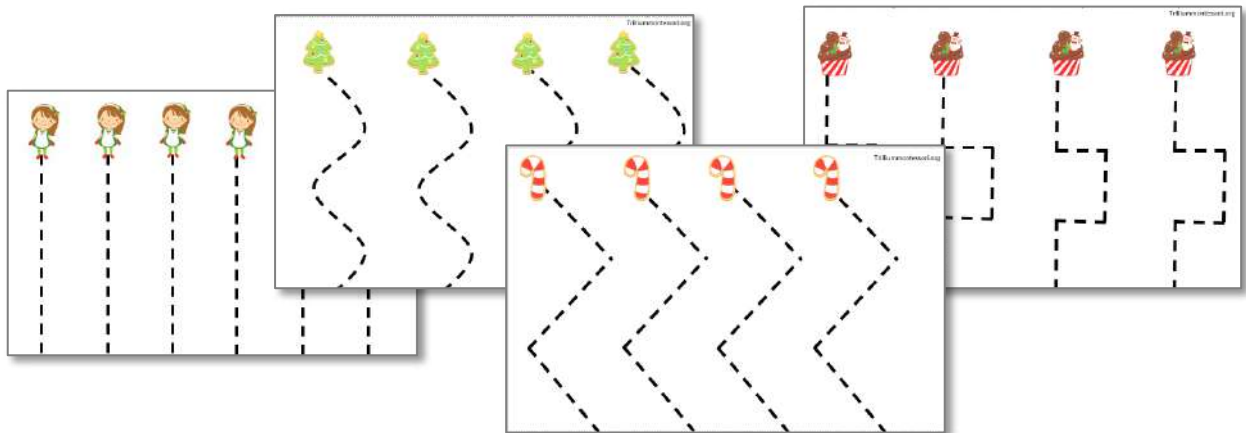
1. Cutting strips:

Prepare by cutting into strips. Show child how to cut on the dashed lines. This is a beginning cutting activity and is good for students who are just learning how to handle scissors. The child will be motivated to avoid cutting up the picture and will attempt to stay on the line. The lines are short and do not require multiple cuts. (Tip: an introductory cutting exercise is to provide strips of colored construction paper with no lines for the child to cut)



2. Cutting Lines:

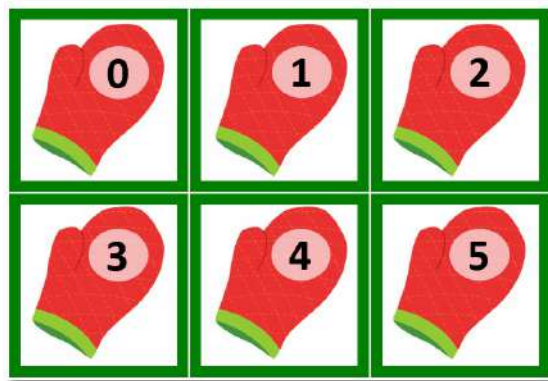
4 different types of lines are provided: straight, curvy, zigzags, and blocks. Each type has two difficulty levels. These can easily be printed in grayscale on colored paper to save on ink.



Skill: Number Sense

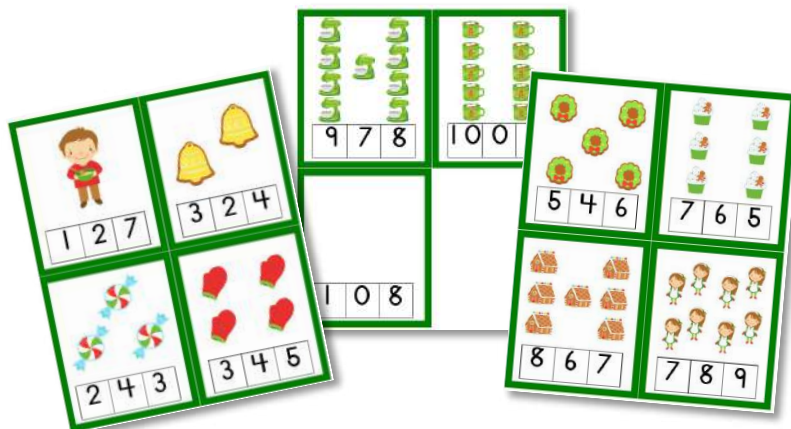
0-10 Number Cards

These 0-10 number cards can be used for a variety of counting activities. Blank cards have also been provided if you would like to make your own cards. These are great for calendar numbers too! Instructions for the Montessori Numbers and Counters Activity can be found here: <http://youtu.be/qvFuUwvFf9Y>



Counting Clip Cards

Cut out the cards. Use clothespins to clip the correct number. You may want to make this a write-and-wipe activity and have the child circle the correct number with a dry-erase or washable marker. The numbers printed on each card are consecutive numbers for the most part to provide a little bit of challenge. Place a color-coding dot on the back, just behind the correct number, for self checking. Alternatively, adjust your printer settings and print out a miniature copy of this set to make control cards. Circle the correct number on your control cards before laminating.



Bonus Activities

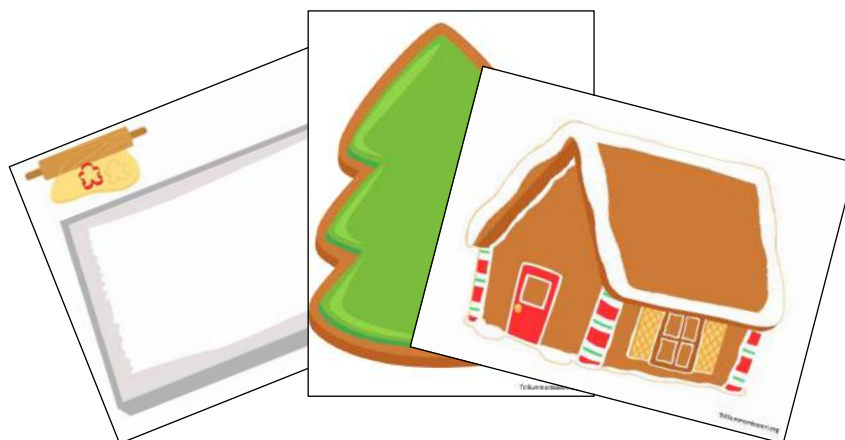
Visual Matching: Outlines

Follow the steps for the Shadow Matching to present these cards.



Play Dough Mats

Laminate these cards and add to your Play Dough Work. Allow the children to explore. Add a rolling pin and gingerbread-man cookie cutters. You may want to try adding some holiday spice to your play dough to make it fragrant. Tip: If you would like to make this a more structured work, try the following: Print out multiple copies and write a different number on each card. Instruct the children to add that many ornaments to the tree, cookies to the cookie sheet, candies to the gingerbread house.





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-Seemi

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