

Doing the Laundry—Sorting and Classifying

Advice for Families

- Model and verbalize aloud, during daily routines, how you are sorting and classifying different items (laundry, food in the refrigerator and pantry, cooking and baking products, etc).
- Encourage attempts at sorting and classifying made by your child. Children need lots of practice learning new skills and tasks.
- Introduce sorting and classifying with objects and toys that your child is familiar with (blocks by color, Matchbox cars, socks: white and not white, silverware: forks, spoons, etc).
- Encourage your child to explain their thinking about why they sorted objects a certain way. Be open to more than one right answer.
- Draw attention to object attributes (size, shape, function, use, location, etc.) and possible ways they could be sorted and classified. This is the beginning of mathematical communication.