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LER 7206



Activity Guide

Set of 12 connecting Gingerbread Sort 'n' Snap with different attributes for sorting and patterning.

About Smart Snacks® Gingerbread Sort 'n' Snap™

Smart Snacks Gingerbread Sort 'n' Snap is a perfect way to introduce patterning and sorting to a child, and it can also be tailored for more of a challenge. There are many possibilities to discover! Before you begin these activities, review with the child what the differences and similarities are between the pieces. Then continue to explore the possibilities for educational play with these activity ideas or ones you and your child discover yourselves!

Beginner Sort 'n' Snap

To start off with, have the child sort by focusing on only one attribute. Place all 12 pieces on a table and ask the child to find all the gingerbread pieces that have a hat on. Then have the child separate that group into boys and girls. Then have the child connect all the boys with hats together and all the girls with hats together and count how many there are of each.

Stripes, Buttons, or Both

Have all 12 gingerbread pieces on the table and ask the child to find all the pieces with stripes on their shirts. Then have the child find all the pieces with buttons on their shirts. This will leave a third group with both buttons and stripes. Then, within each group, have the child do the next sort by his or her choice of attribute (ex: hat, hair, shoes, boy, girl). Then ask the child to explain why he or she sorted the pieces in that way.

Sharing Attributes

For a more advanced game have the child find gingerbread pieces that share two attributes. Place all 12 gingerbread pieces on the table and ask the child to find all the pieces that have both a hat and shoes. Then ask the child to explain the differences between those pieces.

Who Am I?

This is a fun game to play with a small group of children. Place all 12 gingerbread pieces on the table. The first child to figure out which gingerbread piece you are describing is the next one to describe another piece to the group. For example: My gingerbread piece has stripes only on its shirt. My gingerbread piece also has a hat on. And my gingerbread piece is wearing shoes. Which piece am I describing?

What Pattern Is Next?

This is a good challenge activity. Start by placing all 12 gingerbread pieces on the table and set up a pattern. Then have the child figure out which gingerbread piece will snap on next in the pattern. For example: hat and shoes, no hat or shoes, hat and shoes, what is next? Once the child snaps on the piece he or she chooses to continue the pattern, ask the child to explain why that piece was the right choice. You can also have the child make up their own pattern (simple or complex) and then make you solve it and explain your choice.