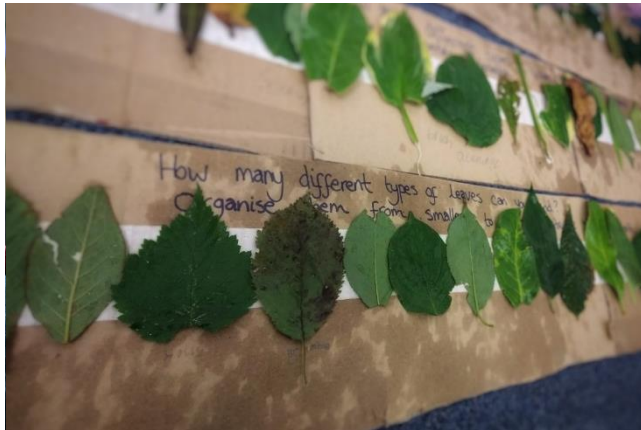


Get it Sorted!

How many different ways can we sort things?

Early Years

Play Based Learning



Instructions

In this activity you will need some “bits and pieces”. Have a look around and try to find some natural materials.

How many different ways can you sort these?

You can find some suggestions here.

Activity

- Take turns with a partner, choosing one item at a time. Can you place your items in a line from shortest to longest? Once you have finished, do you agree that they are in the right order?
- Can you make a number line from objects you've found?
- Can you organise your objects into a repeating pattern? Can someone else copy your pattern with some more objects? Can you copy someone else's?
- Can you group your objects by their similarities? For example by colour, shape, material or size. How else can you categorise them?
- In your group of objects can you find an odd one out? Why is it the odd one out? Can you explain your decision?

Where's the learning?

Sorting and classifying involves finding similarities and differences between groups of things. This can allow children to organise and make sense of the world around them.

Opportunities for sorting can support a child's positioning schema.

“A schema is a pattern of repeated actions. Cluster of schemas develop into later concepts” (Athey 2007)

See more information about Schemas on the [Education Scotland](https://www.education.scot.nhs.uk/education/scotland/) website.

Egg boxes are a fantastic item for storing and sorting your found items.

For more resources visit www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources

© This activity sheet was created by Learning through Landscapes
Registered charity no. in England and Wales 803270 and in Scotland SCO38890

