

# LANGUAGE LESSON PLAN FOR PARENTS USING CATEGORY 'I SPY' GAME

Directions for activity: Print the 'I Spy' checklist sheet and give it to your child. Have them go around the house looking for different items that are on the category game sheet. Once your child finds an item, they can check it off. If the things are small, your child can put them in a box or container as they find the item. Your child is finished with the 'I Spy' game when they have spotted everything on the list. For families with multiple children at home, you can break them up into teams to see who can finish the list first. They can look for these items amongst their toys, in rooms of the house, or in the yard. Game variations: set a timer and have your child get as many items as possible during that time. Have your child hide the items they found and give you directions for where to look with prepositional vocabulary such as 'behind,' 'in front,' 'under,' 'next to' or 'near.'

## COMMUNICATION TIPS WHILE PLAYING THE 'I SPY' GAME



MODEL  
LANGUAGE  
WITH YOUR  
CHILD

The best thing you can do while playing is model the language your child could be using during the game. Avoid using phrases that force your child to talk, such as "say this." Instead, use language that invites your child to comment, such as "Wow. I found something on the list." Shorten your sentences and put emphasis on key words, like, "look ball." You can use gestures to help your child understand the vocabulary, such as holding your hands in a circle to demonstrate round.

## LANGUAGE SKILLS TO PRACTICE AFTER THE GAME

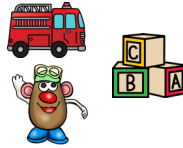
Receptive Language	Expressive Vocabulary	Grammar	Social Skills
<p>1. Ask your child wh-questions about the items they found. Here are some examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Where can you find it?</li> <li>-What is the item's function?</li> <li>-Why do we need this item?</li> <li>-Who uses this item?</li> <li>-When would we need this item?</li> </ul> <p>2. Use the visual sentence frames to work on answering yes/no questions. Hold the item up and say, "Is this a ____?" Give wait time and have your child answer yes/no. If your child is struggling with the concept, point to the correct sentence frame. You can start with making the skill easier by using nouns that are very different. For example, hold up a pencil and say, "Is this a dinosaur?" to teach the yes/no concept.</p>	<p>1. Describe the item by attributes (i.e., category, function, size, color, location).</p> <p>2. Have your child try to name 3 more items in the category group. Or, have them do a second round of the game and see if they can find another item in that category group.</p> <p>3. Compare/contrast the two items in a category by similarities and differences.</p> <p>4. Give inferencing clues about an item your child should look for such as 'it is cold and a dessert.'</p>	<p>1. Use each item in a sentence.</p> <p>2. Expand the sentence by adding an adjective (i.e., crunchy, large, purple, heavy).</p> <p>3. Add prepositional phrases such as 'in the garage' or 'on the shelf.'</p> <p>4. Practice 'has' and 'have' as well as pronouns such as, "She has the car."</p> <p>5. Have your child practice singular and plural such as "one car, two cars."</p> <p>6. Work on pronouns by giving the items to people in the house with "Give the ____ to her." You can talk about what items people have, such as "She is holding a toothbrush."</p>	<p>1. Have your child work on initiating questions and comments during the activity, such as "Where could we find a food item?" or "I see an appliance."</p> <p>2. Teach your child how to use their body to show they are in the group. They have to stay near you or their siblings while working on the activity.</p> <p>3. After the game is finished, have your child initiate with another family to show them what they found or to ask questions with siblings, such as "I found _____. What did you find?"</p>

Set A

# 'I Spy' Categories Around the House Game



I spy a stuffed animal.



I spy a toy.



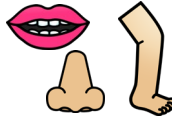
I spy a piece of clothing.



I spy a drink.



I spy a food.



I spy a body part.



I spy a vehicle.



I spy a tool.



I spy sports equipment.



I spy a school supply.

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Set B

# 'I Spy' Categories Around the House Game



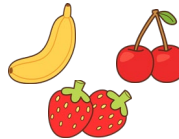
I spy something hot.



I spy a vegetable.



I spy something cold.



I spy a fruit.



I spy a cleaning supply.



I spy an appliance.



I spy furniture.



I spy a kitchen utensil.



I spy a plant.



I spy a breakfast food.

Set A



I



found

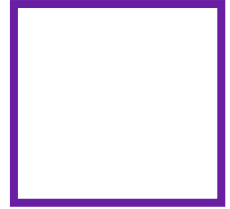
a/an



is

are

a/an



category group

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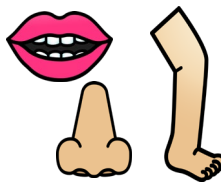
### Category Groups



clothes



stuffed animals



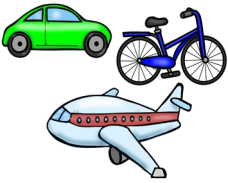
body parts



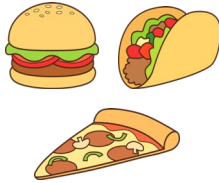
school supplies



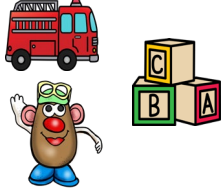
tools



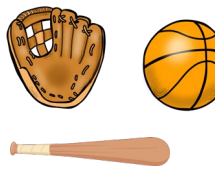
vehicles



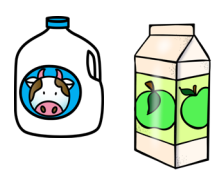
food



toys



sports equipment



drinks



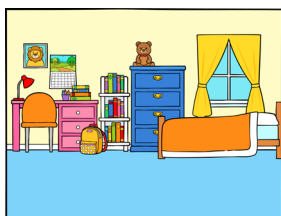
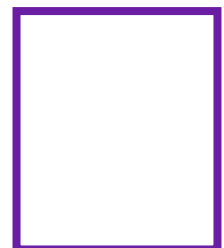
You can



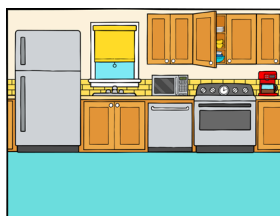
find



in the



bedroom



kitchen



garage



office

Set B



I



found

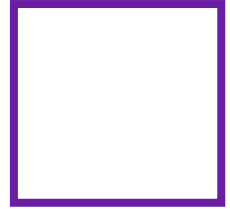
a/an



is

are

a/an



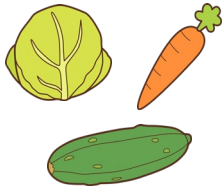
category group

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### Category Groups



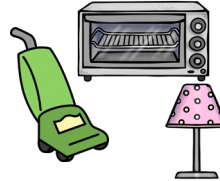
hot item



vegetables



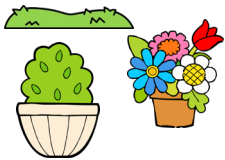
cleaning supplies



appliance



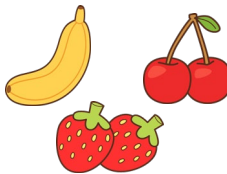
furniture



plants



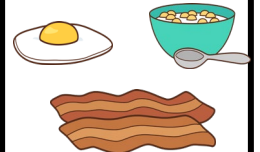
cold items



fruit



kitchen utensil



breakfast food

A/an

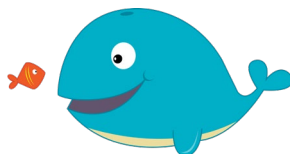


is

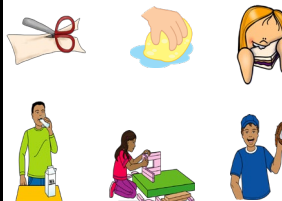
are



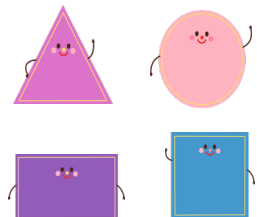
color



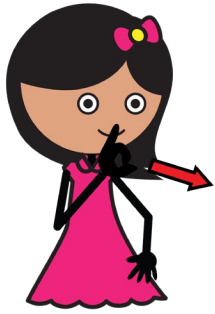
size



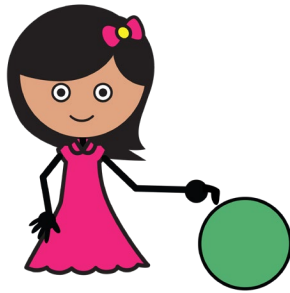
function



shape

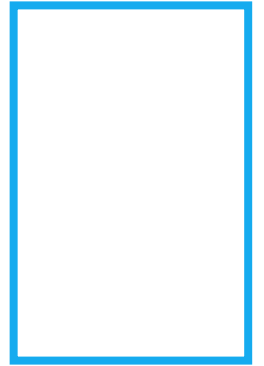


Is

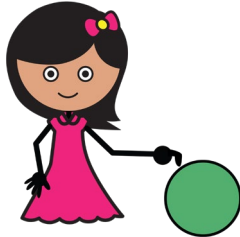


this

a/an



Yes,



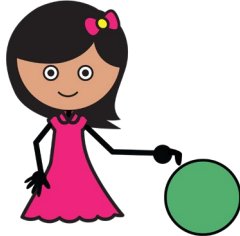
this



is



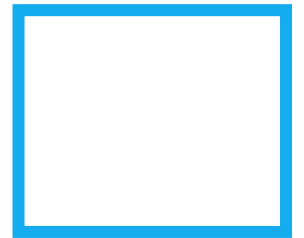
No,



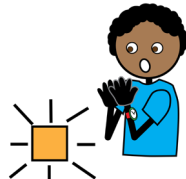
this



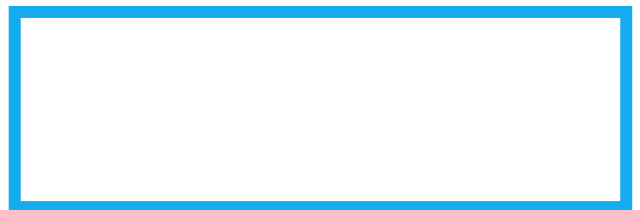
is



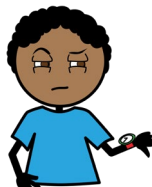
I



like



I



don't like

