

Space Explorers

counting backwards, position order

Materials none

- What to do**
1. Choose five children to be space explorers. Have them stand in a row.
 2. Tell each child which space explorer he is. For example, "Ryan, you're the first space explorer; Adam, you're the second explorer..."
 3. If you have a large group of children, have them join hands to make a circle around the space explorers and become the "flying saucer."
 4. Sing the song below with the actions mentioned, and try to get everyone looking left and right at the same time.
 5. When each space explorer "zooms away," he spreads out his arms and "flies" out of the flying saucer, under the joined hands of the other children.
 6. In the last verse, all the children who make up the flying saucer spread their arms and zoom away too.

Spacemen by Anne Adeney

*Five spacemen in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn't like the sight
So the first man zoomed away.*

*Four spacemen in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn't like the sight
So the second man zoomed away.*

*Three spacemen in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn't like the sight
So the third man zoomed away.*

*Two spacemen in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
They looked left and right,
But they didn't like the sight
So the fourth man zoomed away.*



*One spaceman in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
He looked left and right,
But he didn't like the sight
So the fifth man zoomed away.*

*NO spacemen in a flying saucer
Zoomed 'round the earth one day.
It looked left and right,
But it didn't like the sight
So it just zoomed away.*

+ Anne Adeney, Plymouth, United Kingdom

Sort It Out

sorting

Materials

pairs of socks of different colors and sizes
various laundry items (shirt, shorts, towels, washcloths, and so on)
small laundry basket

What to do

1. Place the socks in the laundry basket.
2. Hold up a pair of matching socks and say, for example, "These socks go together because each sock is red and each one fits the same size foot."
3. Pick up another sock and ask the children to look through the pile for the sock that matches it.
4. When a child has chosen a sock, encourage him to use descriptive words to tell you how he knows it is the right one.
5. Continue holding up socks until the children have paired them all. If they mismatch any socks, provide clues such as "What is the color of each sock?"
6. Remove the socks from the laundry basket and put the laundry items in.
7. Encourage the children to help sort the laundry. Ask one child to find all the blue items in the basket.
8. Have the children count the items as the child finds them.
9. Ask another child to count all the towels in the basket.