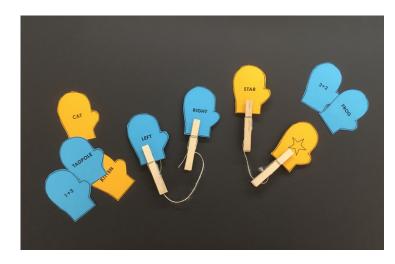
Introduction

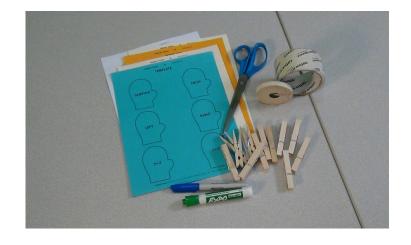
Teaching literacy essentials like opposites, shapes, and colors can be important stepping stones to being a fully fluent reader and writer. As we have learned in other Library Make posts, there is no better way to learn these concepts than with a game!

For these cold winter months, mittens are a cute object to outline and use for this matching game! You can also customize the game to fit your child's unique skill level using a dry erase option.



Supplies

- Our template
- Cardstock or construction paper
- Marker
- Scissors
- Clothespins
- String or yarn
- Packing tape (optional)
- Dry erase marker (optional)



Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official YouTube channel to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at Plano Library Learns

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Instructions, continued

- 1. Cut out template: You can print this on either regular paper or cardstock, or use your own words with the blank template and trace the outline on your choice of paper.
- 2. Cut string or yarn: Cut 7 inch lengths of either of these two options for every pair of mittens you cut out. So if you cut out a total of 10 mittens, you should cut 5 lengths of string or yarn.
- 3. Tie string or yarn to clothespins: Use one length to tie one clothespin to another, making sure they are secure enough so that they will not come apart during play.
- 4. (Optional) Make mittens re-usable: Cover template with packing tape so that most of the mitten's surface is covered, then cut out the template. Then, use a dry erase marker to write the words, shapes, or concepts. This way, you can write and erase as you wish!

How to Play the Mitten Matching Game

The different templates provided will help to develop different skill levels in your little one, ranging from matching opposite words to associating related science concepts.

To play, mix up the mittens and lay them with the words facing up. Then help your child, if needed, to sound out the words and match them! Having them pin the mittens to the string will also assist in developing some fine motor skills. If you decided to make the re-usable option, once your child has mastered one set of words they can move onto the next and from there, the possible mitten combinations are endless!

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