Montessori at Home







Montessori parenting.org

Inspiration for activities and educational materials you can make at home.

~ My dear friends, ~

I am really happy that you downloaded this e-book. I believe it will be an inspiration for your time spent at home with your children….

I'm sure you will notice that the photographs were taken in the home environment. Many of them were taken by my children, so please be lenient with their quality.
All tools that we introduce here were made within the so called "exchange of busy-bag activities" which we organise every year.
The whole event works like this: Mothers are grouped by the age of their children; usually around 20 per group.
Then each mother creates one learning activity for all the other mums in the group to use.
Within each exchange we make one extra activity to support school projects of a local NGO Centrum Dialog doing projects in Kenya and Guinea.

THIS E-BOOK IS DIVIDED INTO CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO THE THEME OF THE ACTIVITIES.

First part contains practical life activities.
These are tools that will help the child on the way to its independence, development of gross and fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination.

Second part is about refining the senses.
The development of senses helps the child in future to develop the creative and abstract thinking.

Third part – mathematics.
All children are born with a natural ability to sense quantity.
But the numbers are abstract and for the development of mathematical mind it is necessary to give the child an actual experience and connection between the symbols and the quantity. Then you can introduce elementary mathematical operations.

Fourth part is working with language.
In this chapter we will focus on categorizing things, pairing, development of vocabulary, beginnings of writing and reading.

Last chapter includes tools from various environments
which the child meets in everyday life. Biology, zoology, geography, discovering universe, time, calendar and much more.



I honestly hope that each one of you finds some inspiration here.
I'll be happy for any feedback from you.

With kind regards,
Lucie

Montessori parenting.org





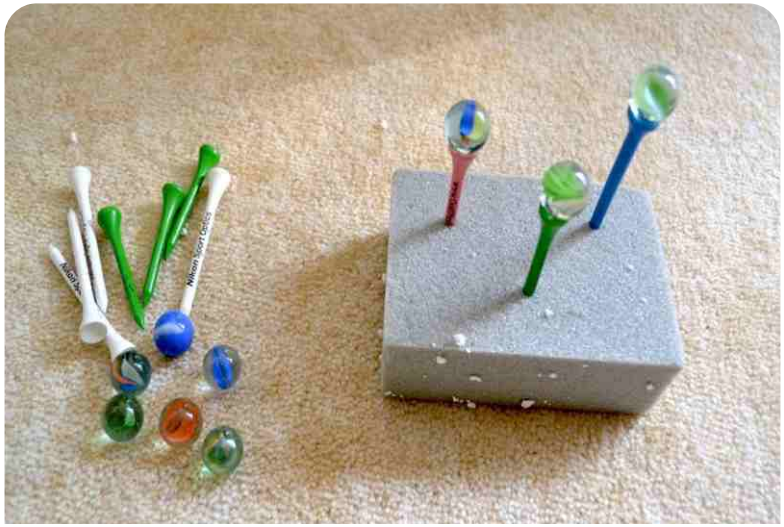
Independence, development
of fine motor skills
and eye-hand coordination.

Montessori parenting.org

Motor skills



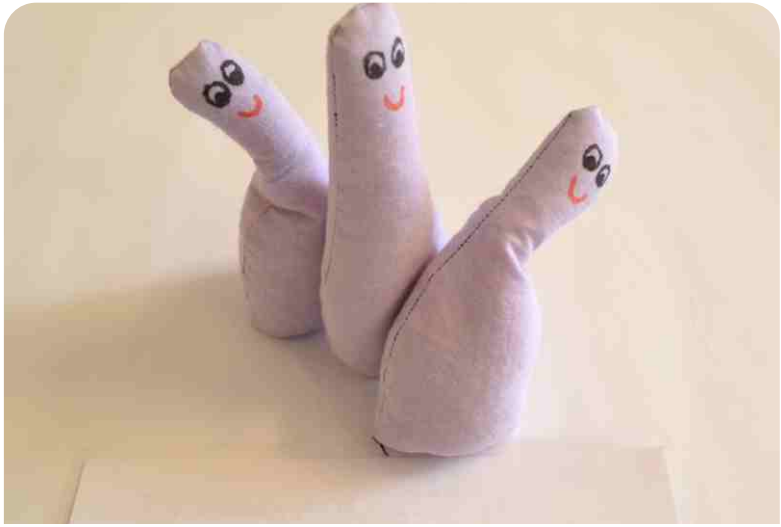
Pegboard with pegs (just input or colour sorting)



Balls on golf tees



Throwing in (for the youngest children)

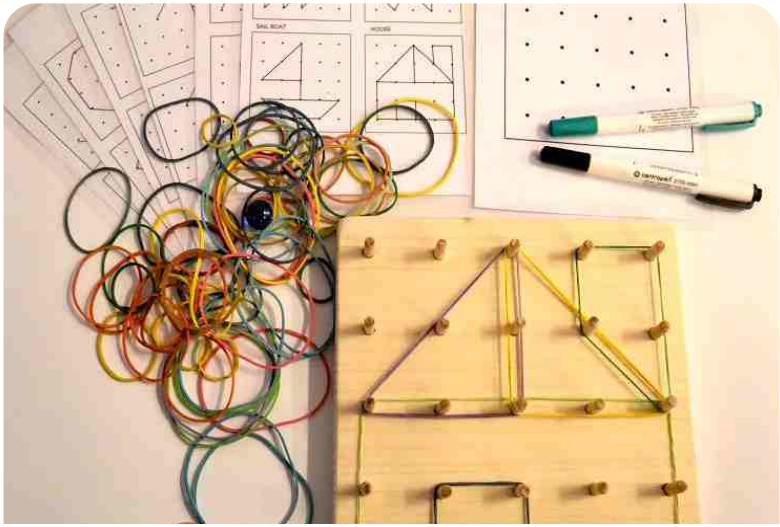


Throwing onto a target (sacks with rice)

Motor skills



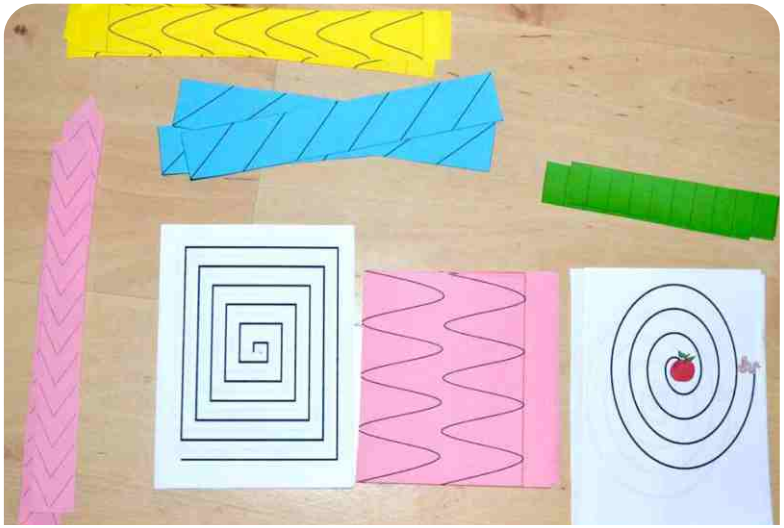
Catching fish on a magnet



Geoboard (with templates and grid for drawing)



Stamps from cork and foam



Cutting templates by difficulty level

Motor skills



Buttoning – by colours



Buttoning – various shapes by colours

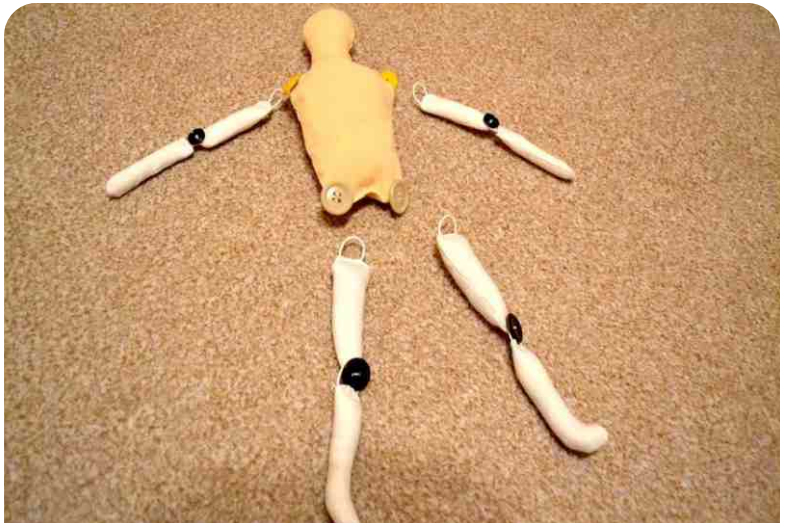


Felt turkey



Fabric owl and felt feathers

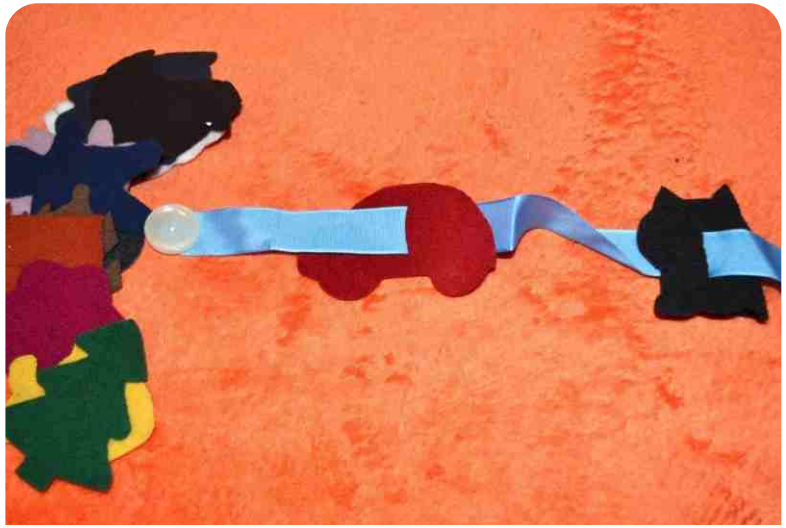
Doing up buttons



Button doll (buttons instead of joints)



Flowers for buttons by colours



Button snake



Caterpillar with legs attached by buttons

Velcro and zipper



Stars with emotions – attaching with Velcro



Velcro chain



Means of transport going on zippers (Ship, car, train and plane)



Treasures hidden under zippers

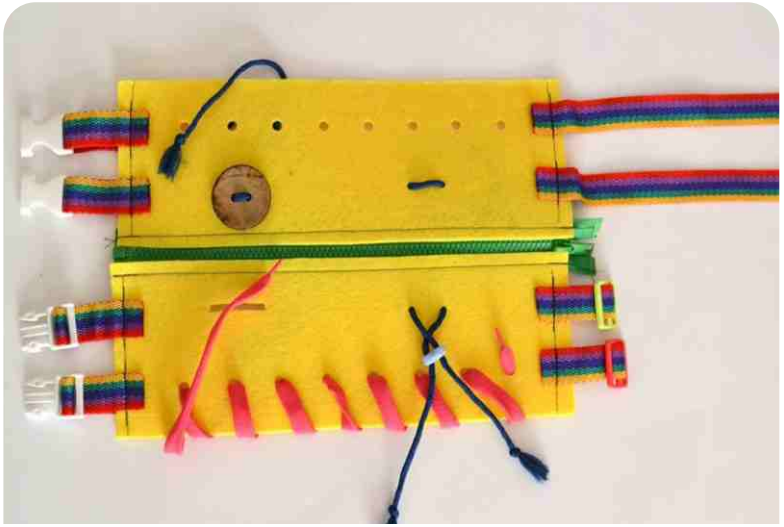
Combination of different types of fastening



Winding up flies (to a spider)



Seasons with poppers



Combination of different types of fastening



Combination of different types of fastening

Montessori parenting.org

Combination of different types of fastening



Closing pockets with different fastenings



Pairing pictures with different fastenings

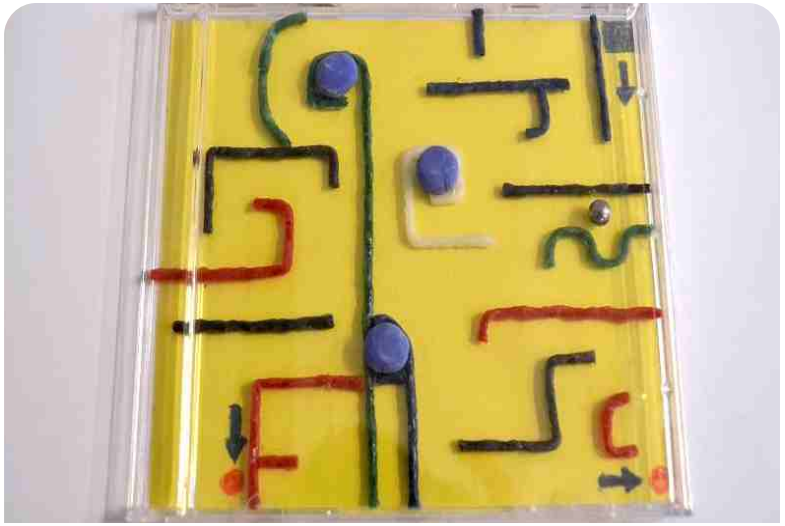


Fastening snake – Velcro, eye – hook, buttons, poppers



Picture with buttons, poppers, clothes pegs and Velcro

Labyrinth



Labyrinth in a CD case



Labyrinth for two balls



Threading shoe laces through eyelets



Touch labyrinth for invisible ball

Montessori parenting.org

Clothes pegs



Hanging the laundry



Birds catch pipe cleaners – worms (can be done by colours)



Pairing up flowers by colours



Matching – animals, their legs and tails

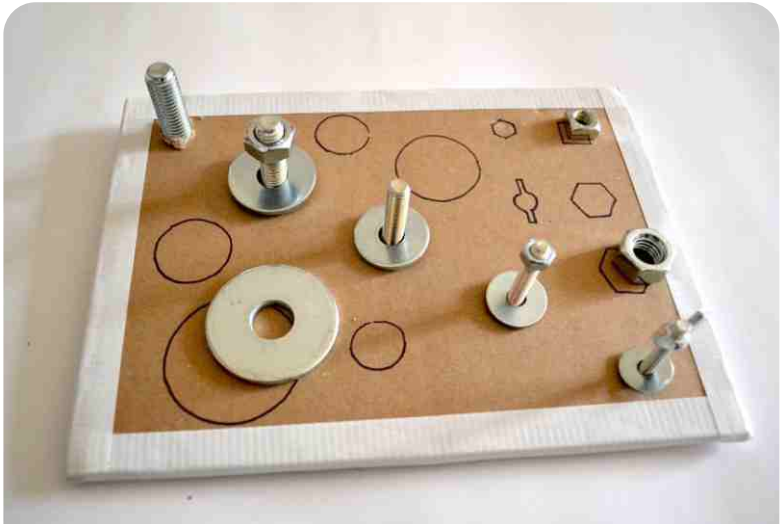
Screwing



Lids glued to a board (pairing by colours)



Pairing up nuts and bolts by size

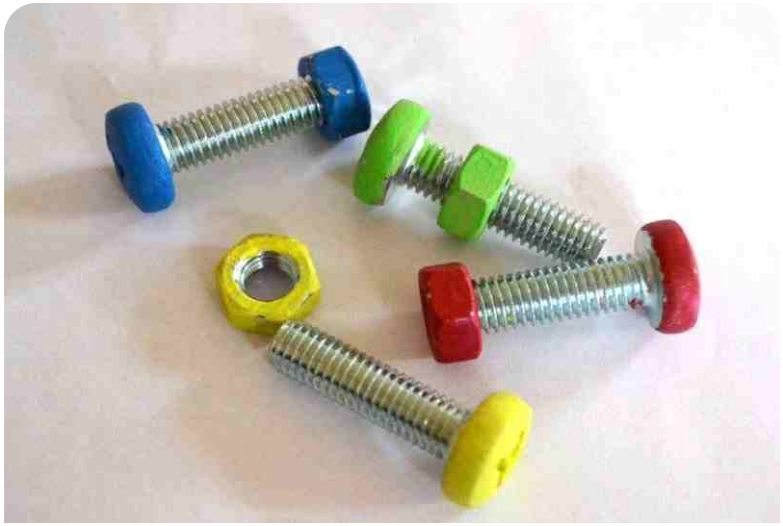


Nuts and bolts on a card board



Work with a screwdriver

Screwing



Pairing bolts by colour



Balls with pipe cleaners – threading through



Tying knots



Sewing through a mesh

Threading, sewing through, preparing for sewing



Threading straws on a stick or wire (by colours or template)



Felt mouse going through carton as a cheese



Threading through foam with a string



Preparing for weaving, laminated template on the left



Refining the senses

Montessori parenting.org

Colours



Mixing the colours



Pairing up colours (objects into the wagons)



Making cars (on magnet) by colours

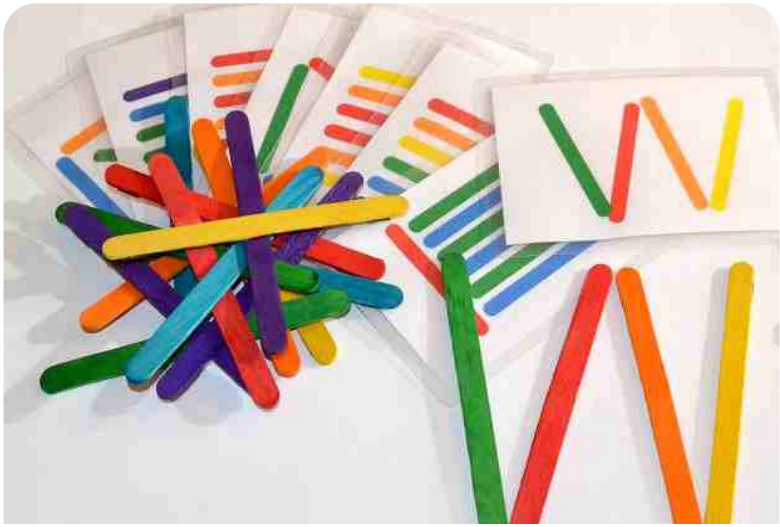


Pairing up lids with colours in the picture

Colours



Tower built with colours on top of each other



Creating patterns with wooden spatulas



Colour pairing of wagons with sticks and counting



Sorting by colours for the youngest ones

Colour shades



Pairing the colour shades with the ones on clothes pegs



Increasing the shades of colours



Increasing the shades with felt and buttons



Pairing the colour shades– dice with cards

Montessori parenting.org

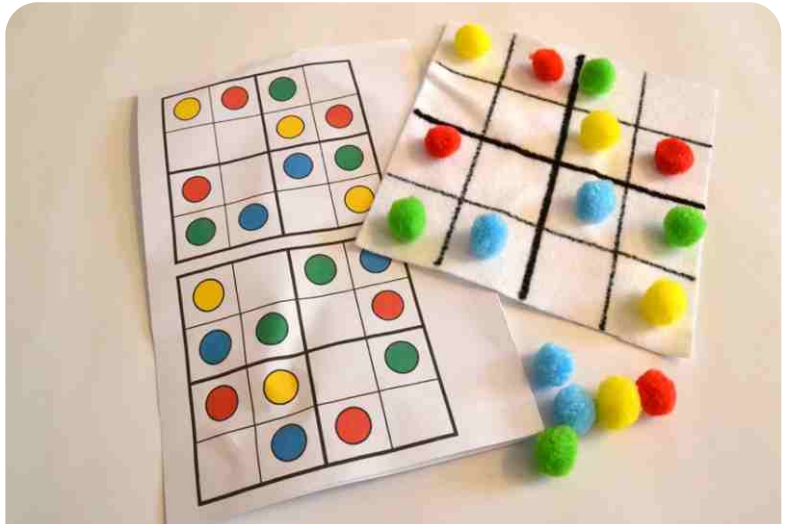
Colours - games



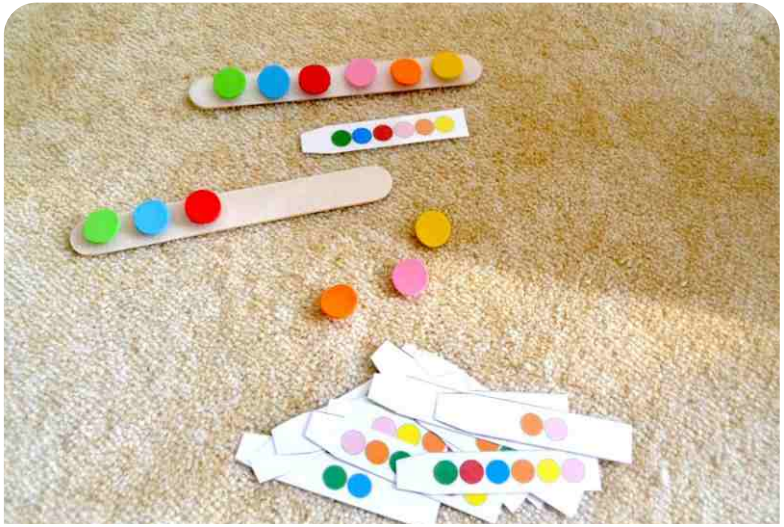
Pairing up the pattern on spatula with the card template



Filling in/pairing – same patterns

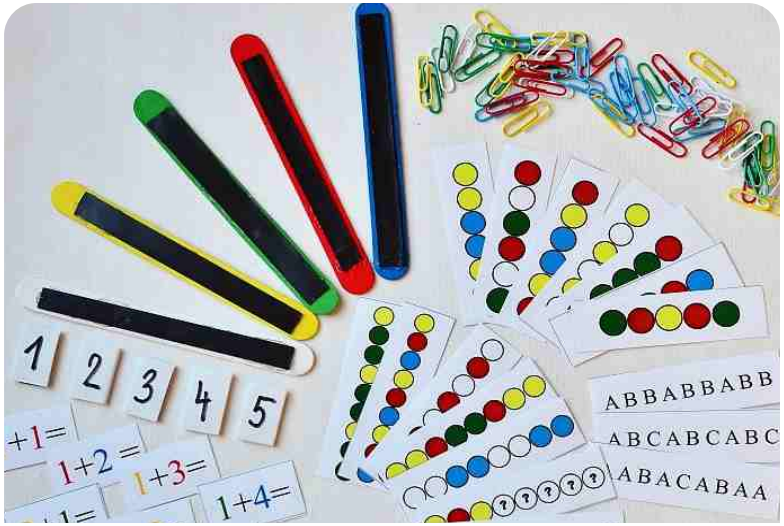


Colour sudoku with bobbles



Following the pattern on the card (Velcro dots)

Colours - games



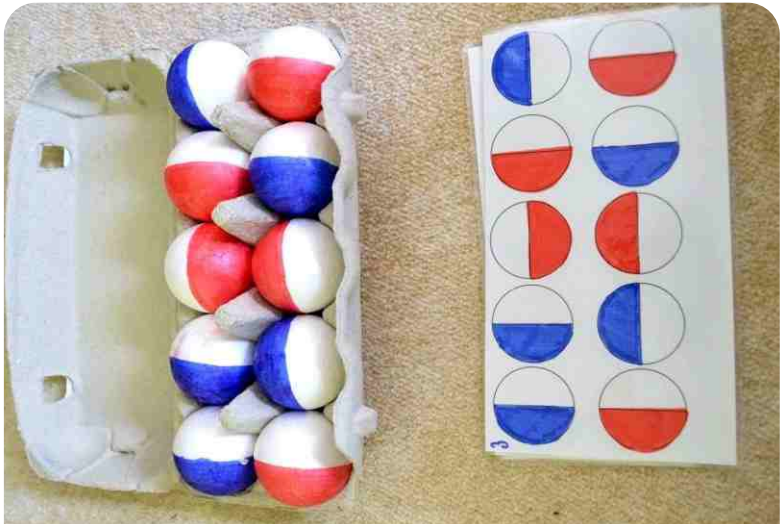
Pairing paper clips on to wooden sticks with magnets



Pairing foam shapes with magnet onto pictures



Making felt ice creams per the template cards

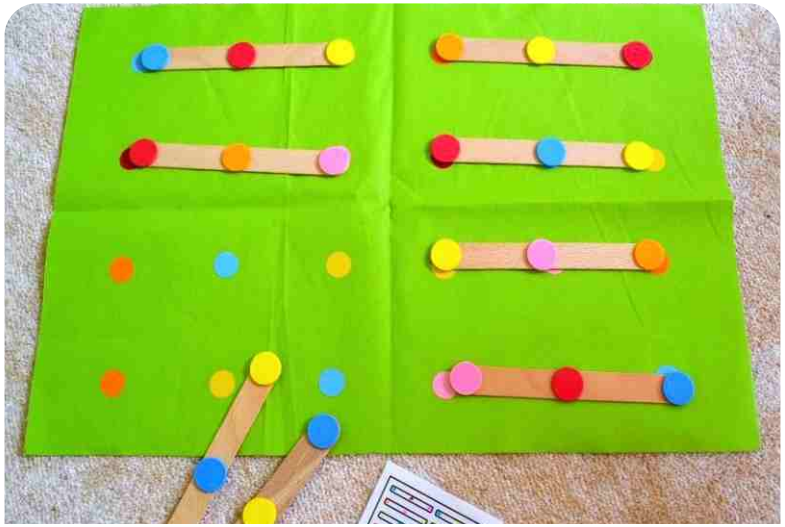


Polystyrene balls – creating per templates

Colours - games



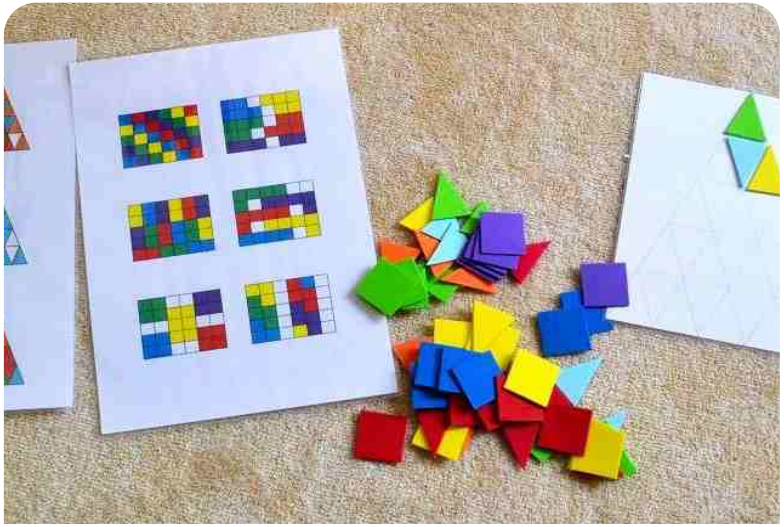
Finding cards with symbols thrown on dice



Pairing sticks with dots with same pattern

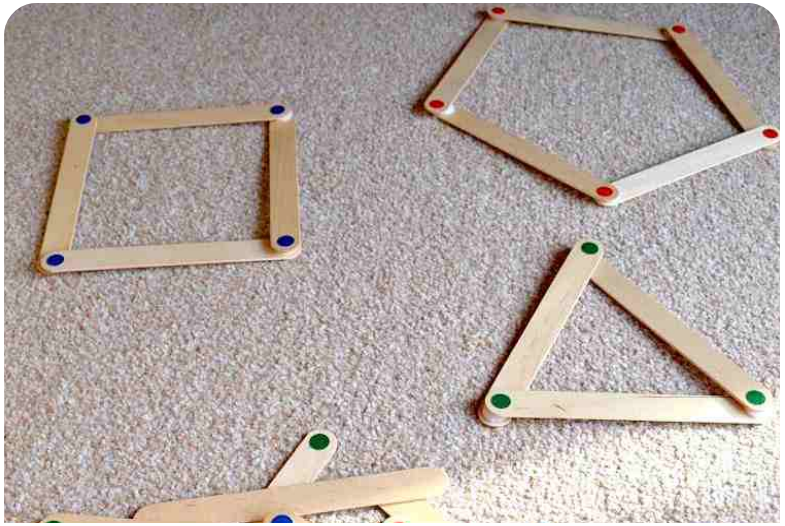


Creating a tree by adding leaves by colour and number on dice



Making pattern with shapes of different colours

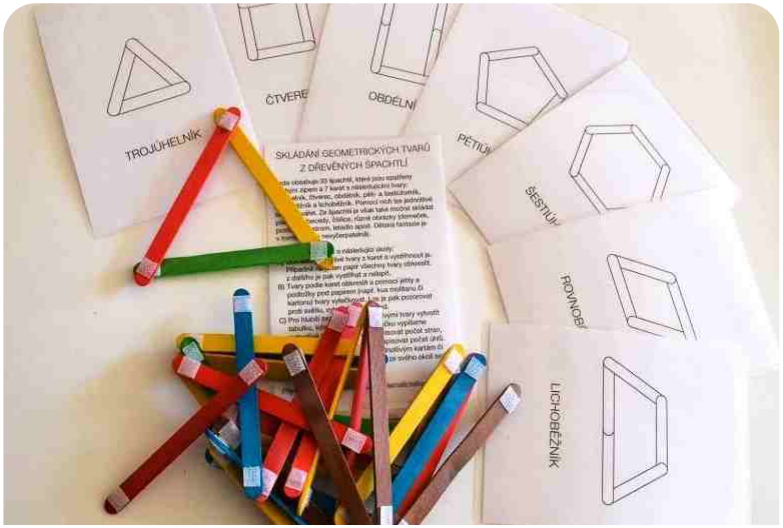
Shapes



Making geometric shapes with spatulas



Ubongo game for kids

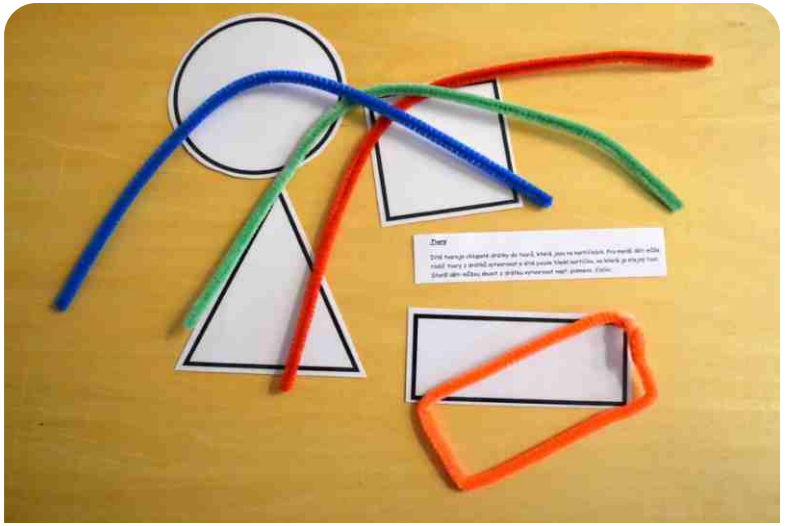


Making geometrical shapes from colourful sticks



Felt squares – creating by imagination or cards

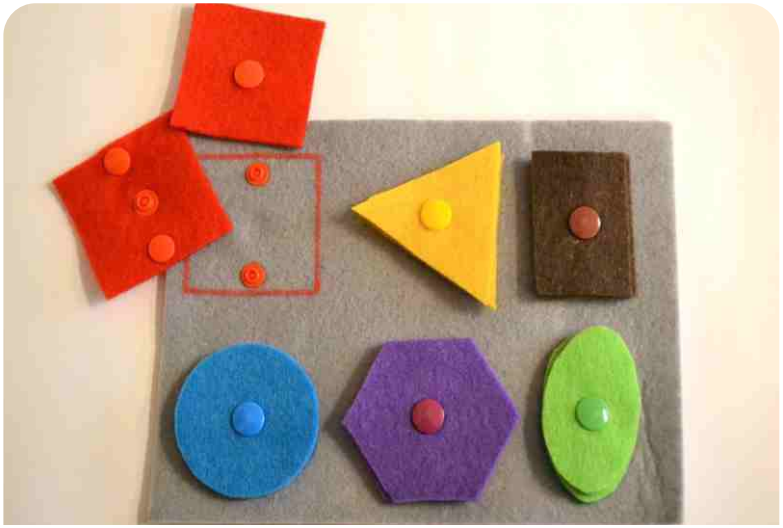
Shapes



Making geometrical shapes from pipe cleaners



Geometrical shapes – pairing with outlines, buttons

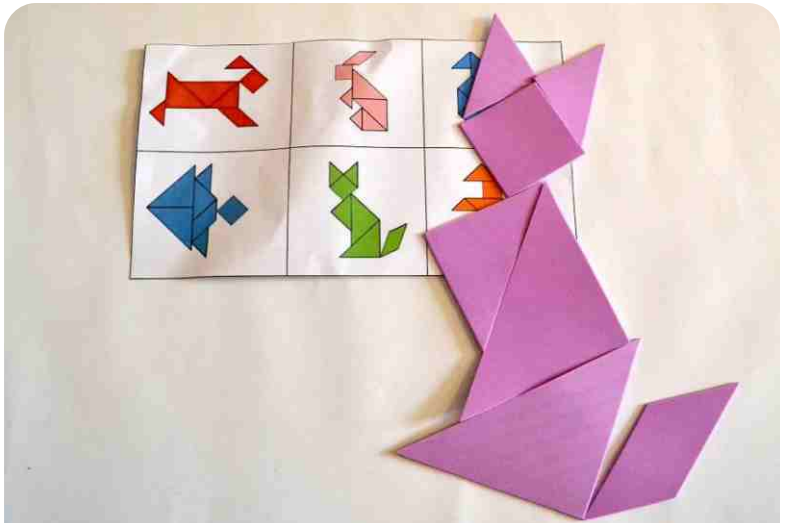


Shapes – pairing with poppers



Shapes – pairing with outlines, Velcro

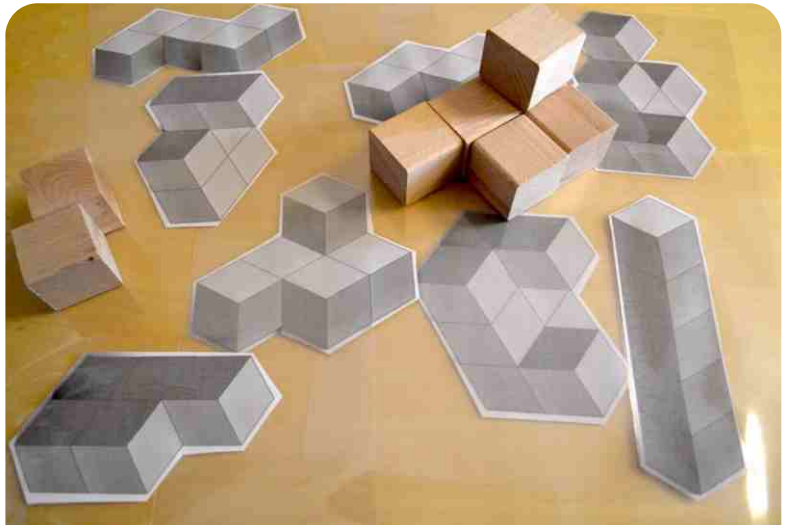
Shapes



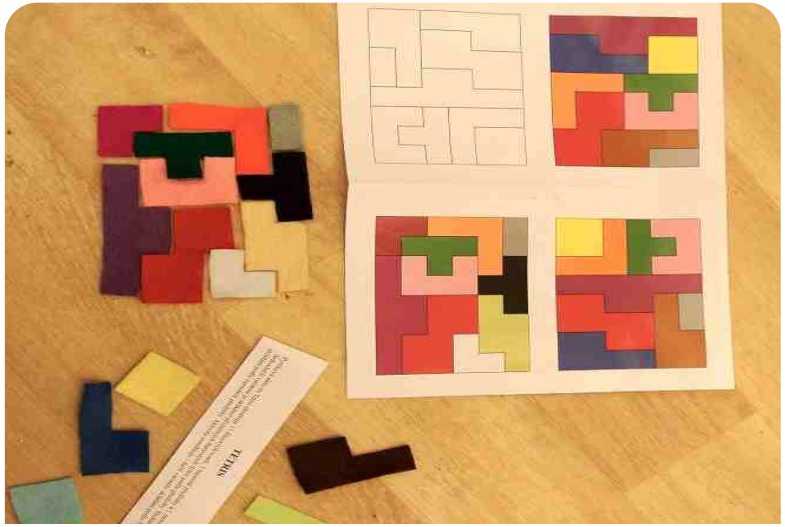
Tangram with templates



Mini CYLINDERS with knobs

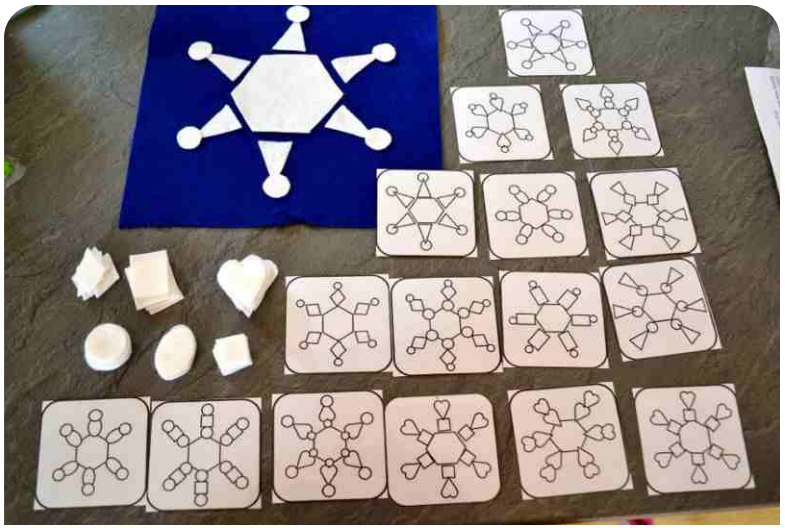


3D structures per templates



Tetris per templates

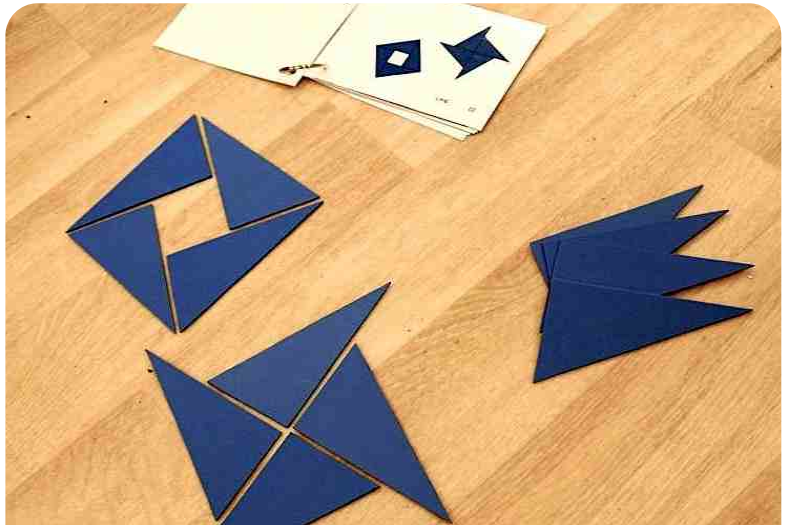
Shapes



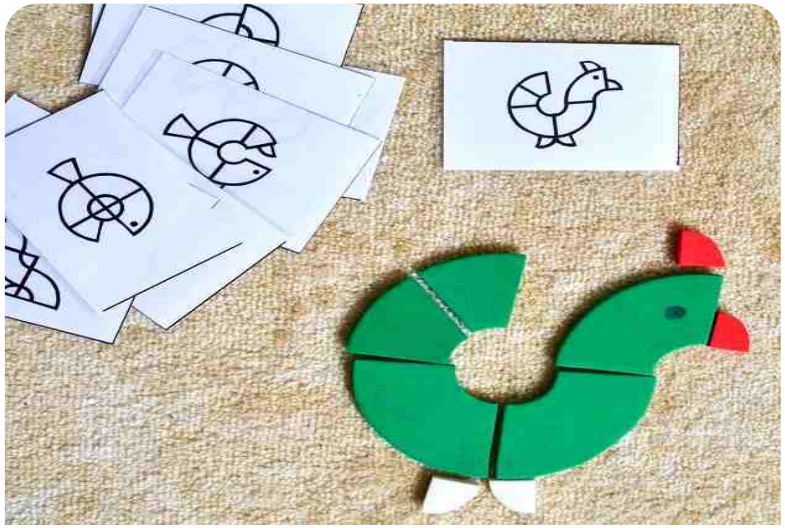
Creating pictures of snowflakes from felt shapes



Pairing shapes – pegs and sticks, glued on felt shapes

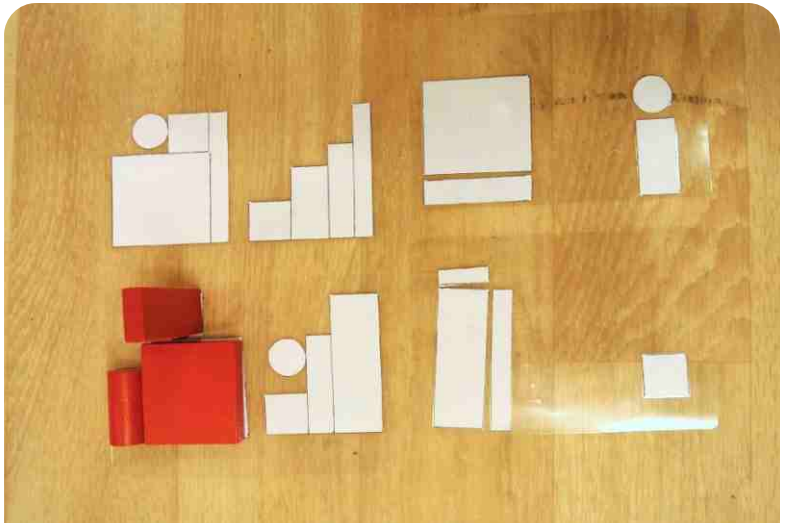


Blue foam triangles

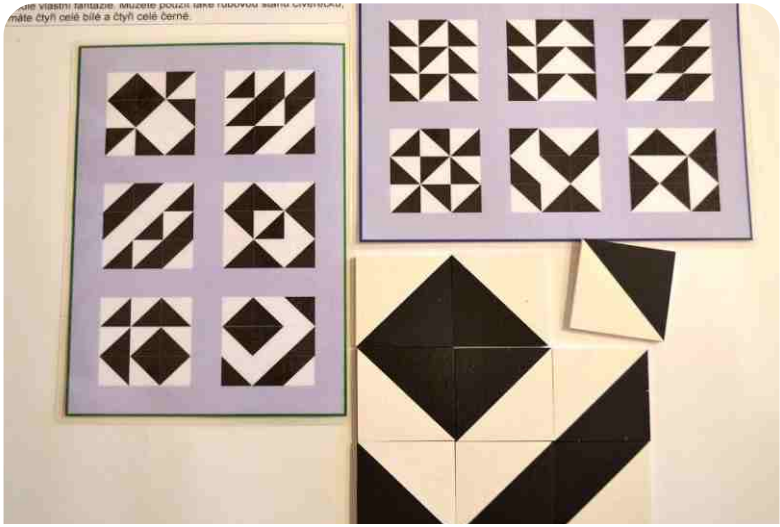


Foam puzzle Golo

Shapes



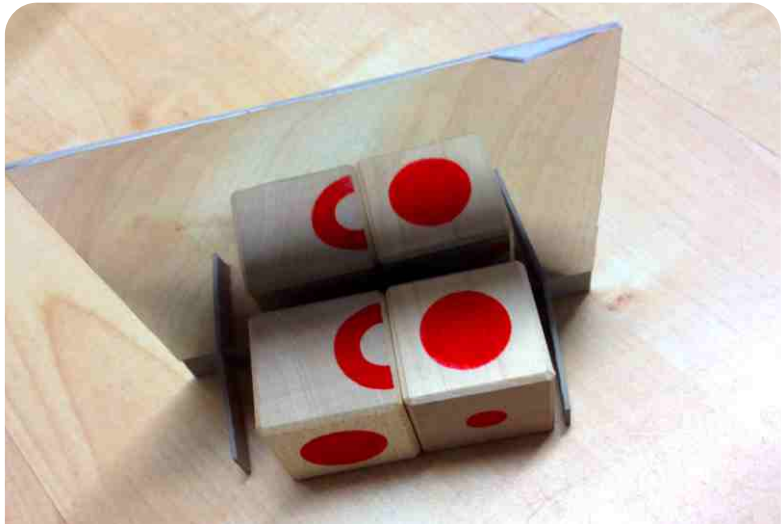
3D models into 2D map



Black and white squares – per template



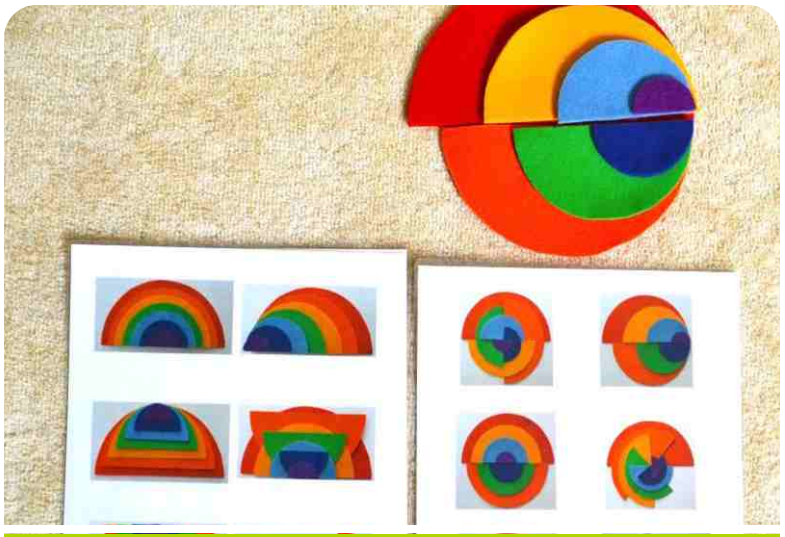
Making pictures from cards with mirror and two dice



Making pictures from cards with mirror and two dice

Montessori parenting.org

Shapes and colours



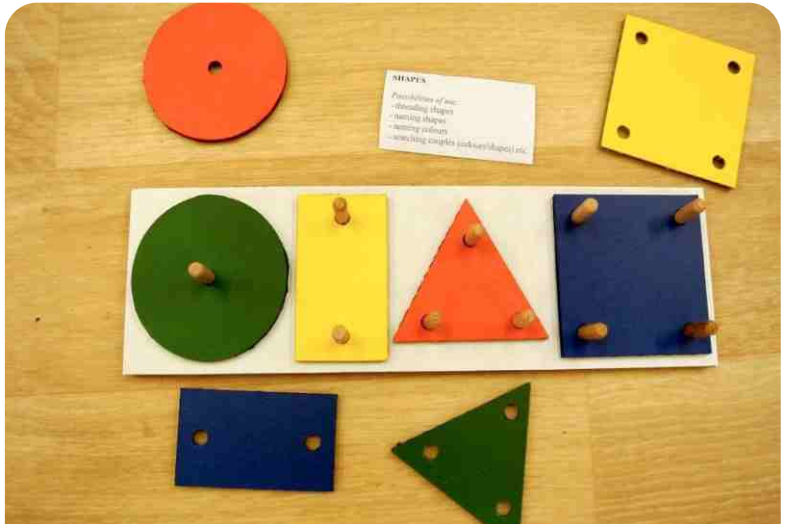
Felt rainbow – creating per imagination or template



Pairing shapes and colours



Colourful circles from wood of different sizes



Colourful puzzle with cardboard shapes

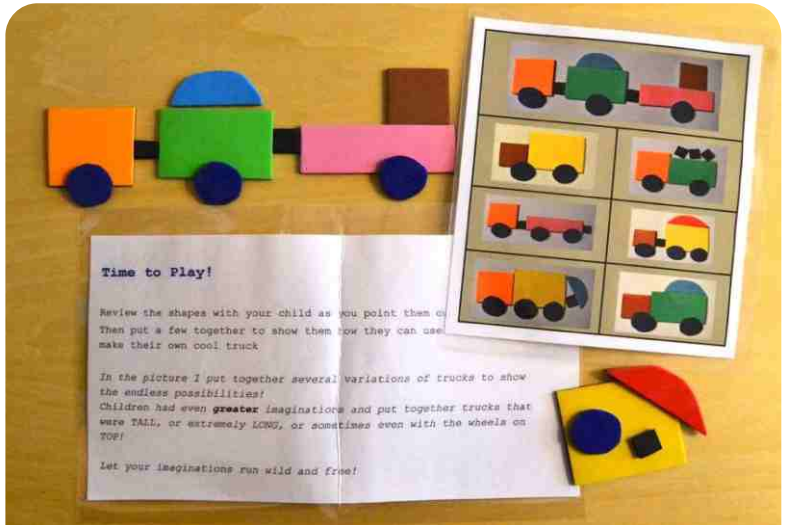
Shapes and colours



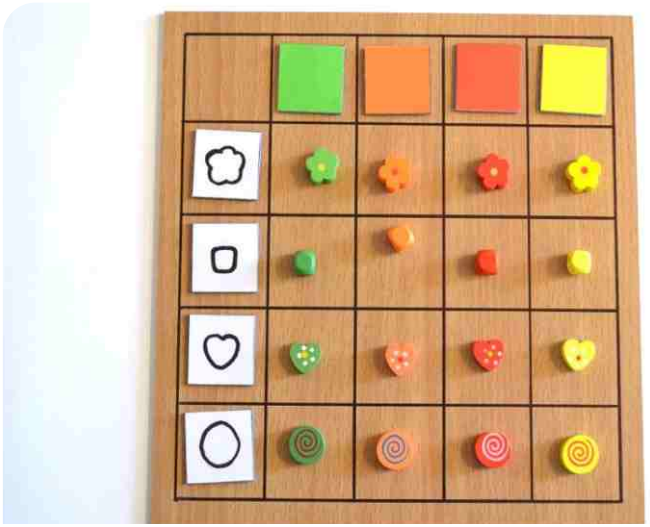
Pairing – foam shapes on laminated paper



Creating patterns – 4 wooden cubes with shapes and cards



Foam shapes – creating cars from imagination or template

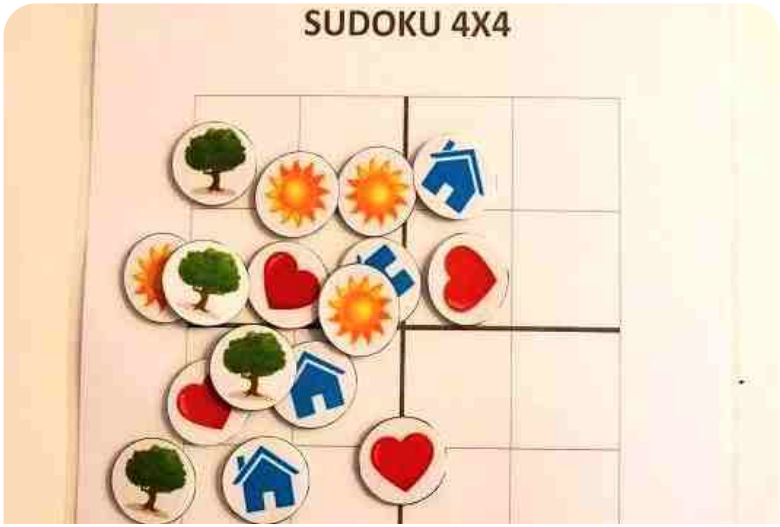


Filling in the table by shape and colour – “What goes where”

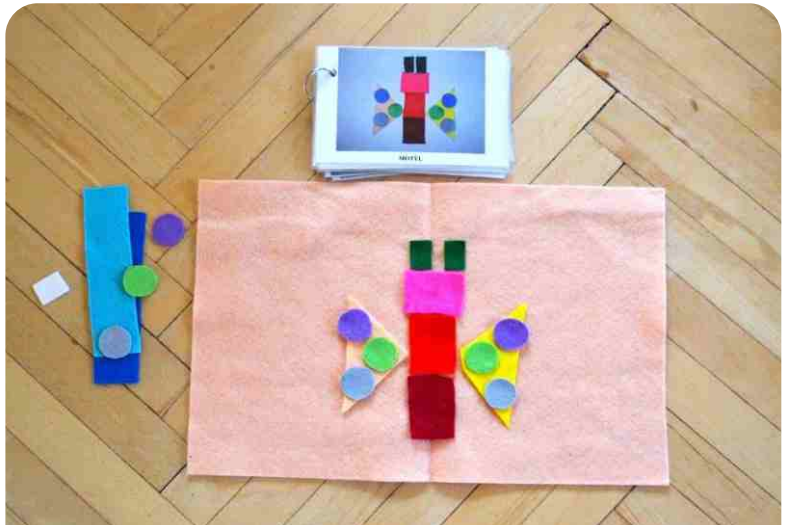
Shapes and colours



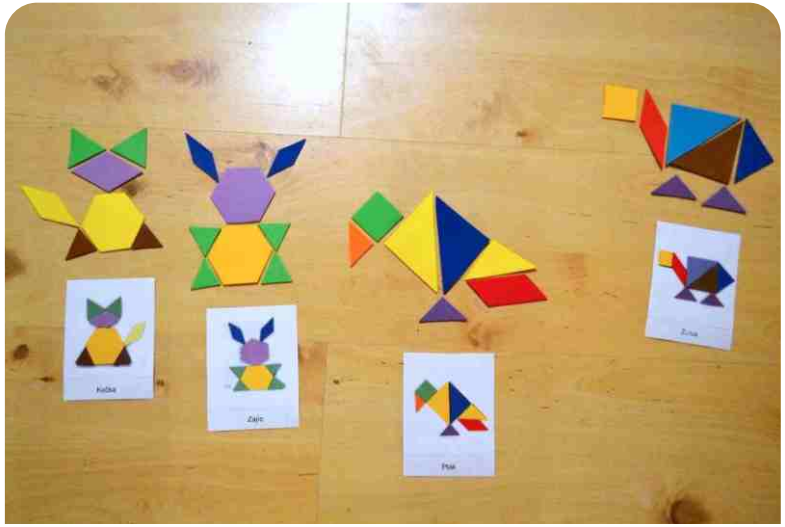
Creating from foam shapes



Basic picture sudoku

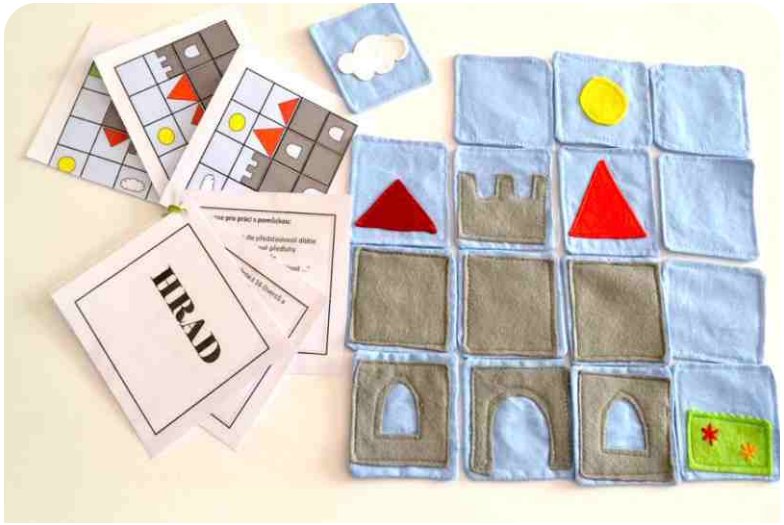


Creating pictures with felt shapes per templates

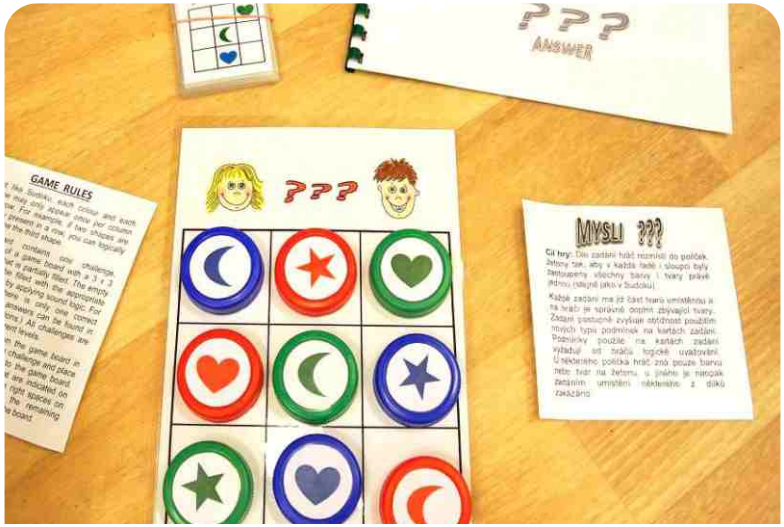


Creating animals from foam shapes

Shapes and colours



Creating castle per template – placing in correct position



Placing in the grid by shapes and colours, per instructions and rules as in sudoku



Creating pictures with magnetic shapes on metal board



Puzzle “who lives where” – per instructions on the cards

Olfactory and auditory activities



Opening sachets with herbs and spices, their names and pictures



Smell of spices in cups, with pictures and names for matching



Sachets with spices and names on wooden boards

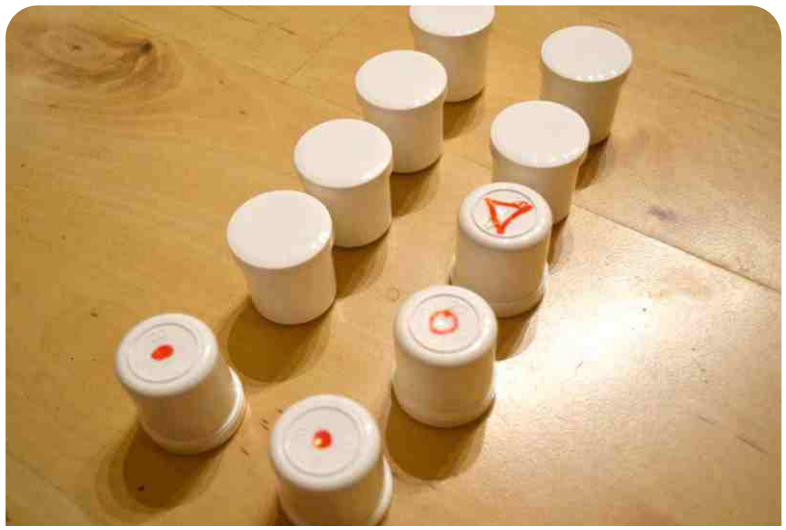


Pairing up by listening (one bottle is clear in the pair)

Olfactory and auditory activities



Sound memory game in ointment tubs



In sound memory game we can label the pair on the bottom (for checking)



Pairing – sound and seeds glued on card



Sound memory game in plastic eggs

Hmatové a hmotnostní aktivity



Mysterious packet – with touch we look for pairs inside



Touch memory game – little sacks



Touch memory game – pillows

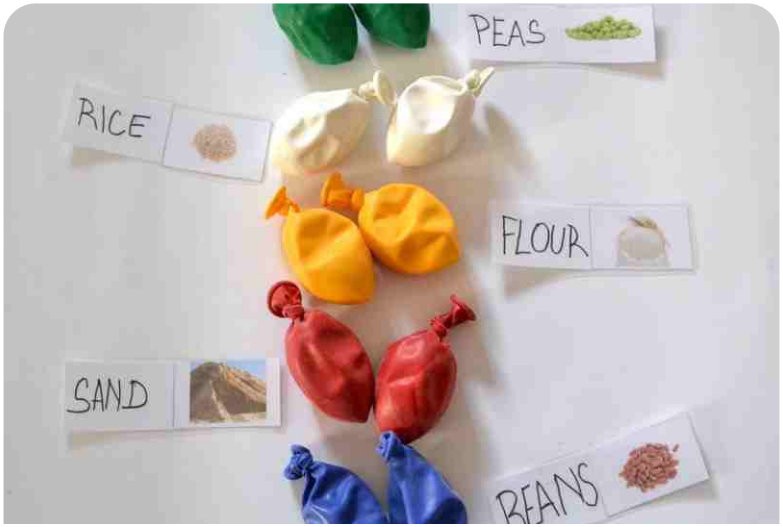


Touch memory game with third packet showing what's inside

Touch and weight activities



Touch balloons – pair up with cards



Touch balloons – pairing up (colours are for checking)

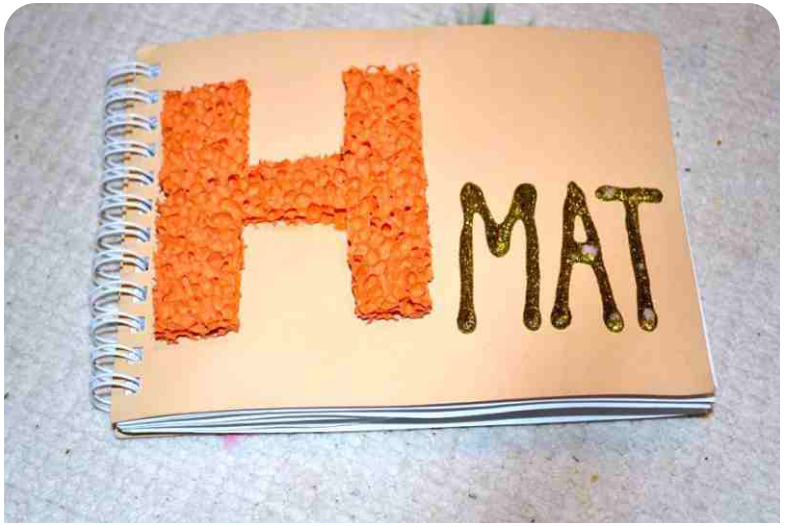


Touch balloons – looking for pairs (colourful rubbers and border of the cards are for checking)



Touch memory game in lids

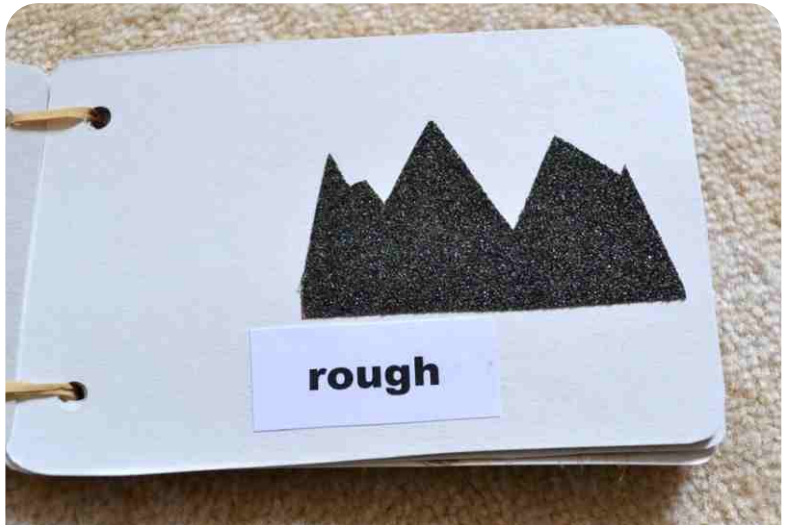
Touch and weight activities



Touch book



Touch book



Touch book

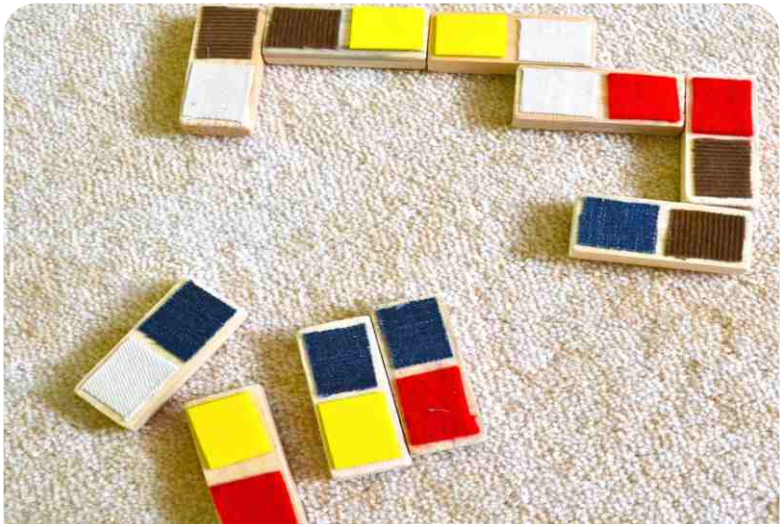


Touch book

Touch and weight activities



Touch memory game- pairing up card with the contents of the matchbox



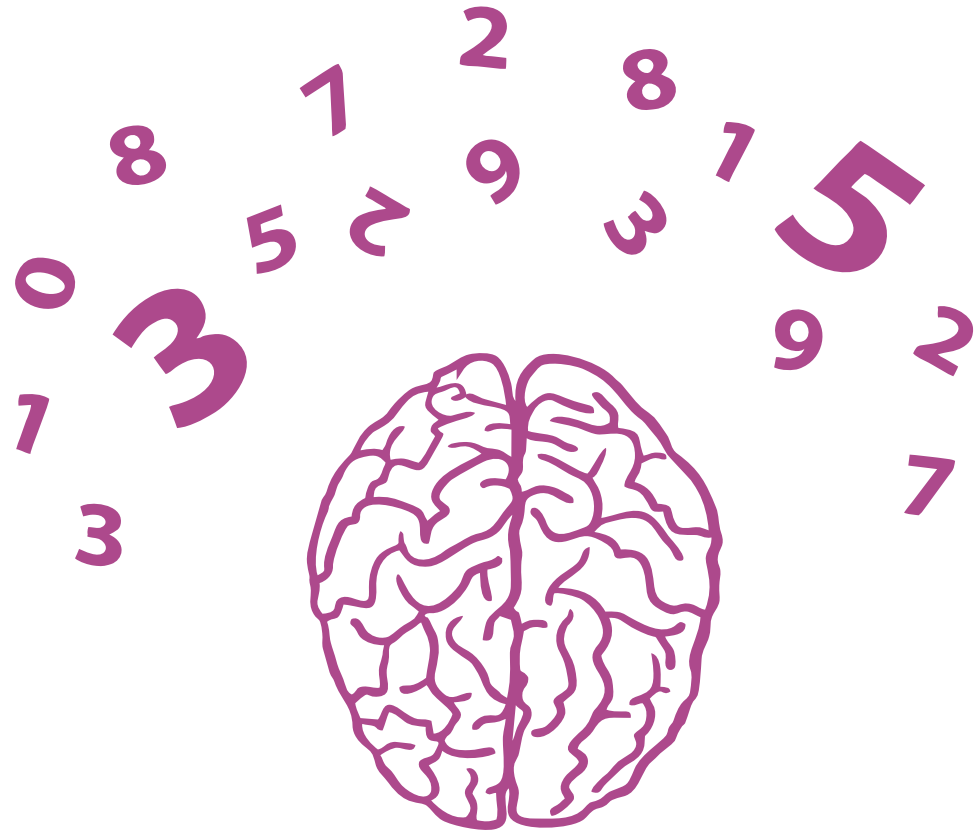
Touch domino (can be played by colours without eyes blindfolded)



Weight bags – pairing up by weight



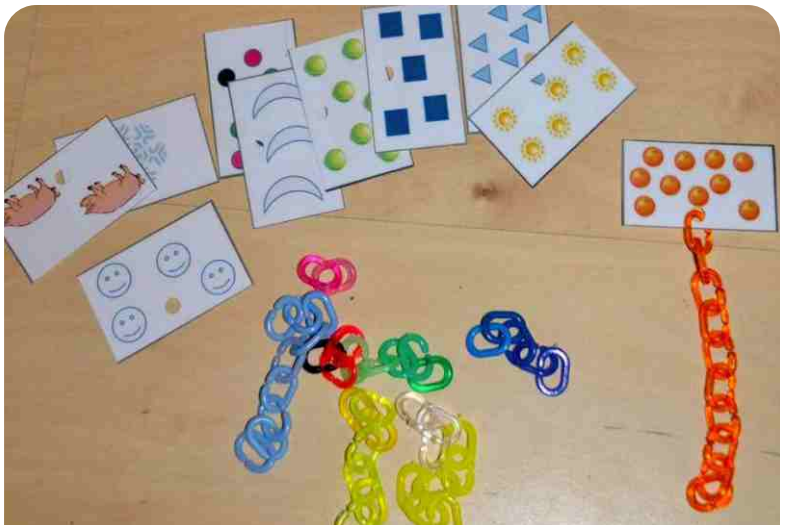
Weight boxes – pairing up by weight



Development of mathematical mind

Montessori parenting.org

Counting 1-10 - introducing quantity



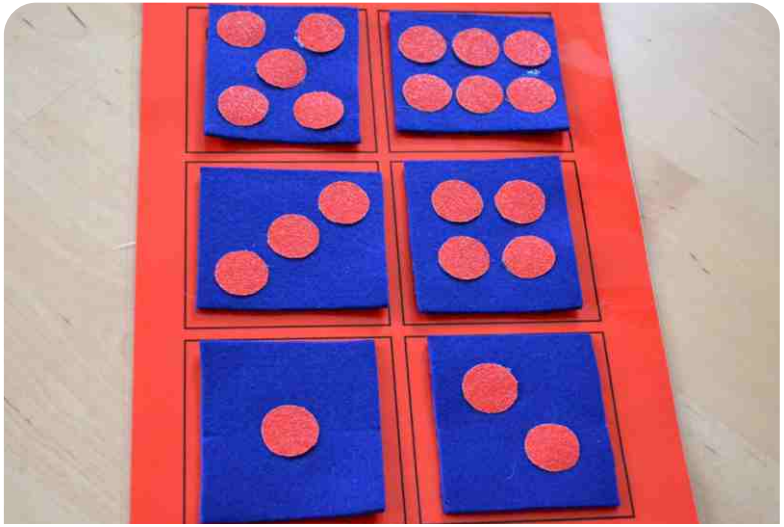
Counting with C shapes



Felt ladybird with bobbles

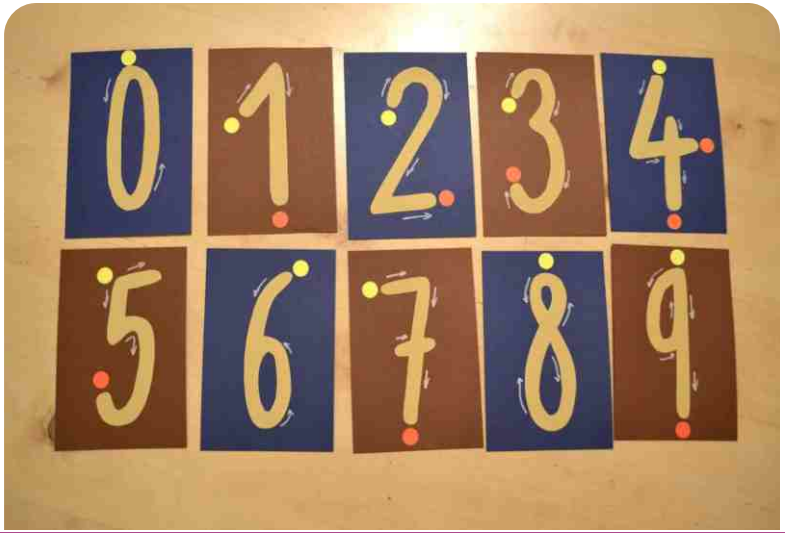


Red and blue beads



Sandpaper dots on felt base

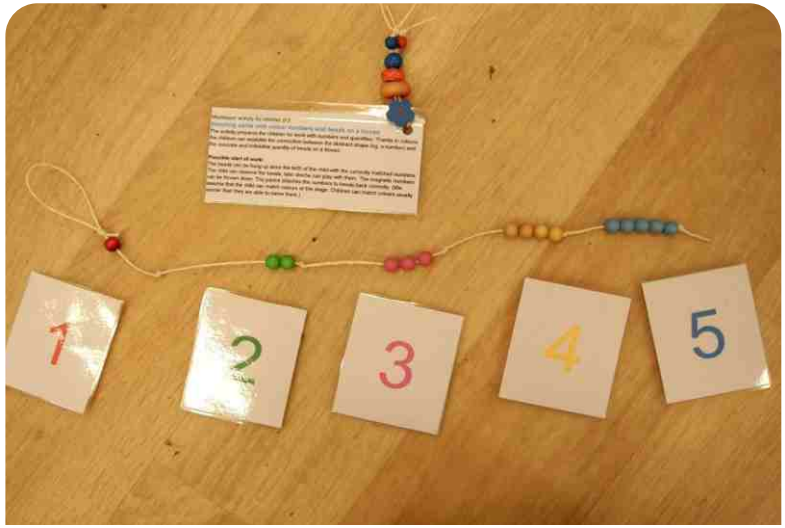
Introducing symbols - numbers



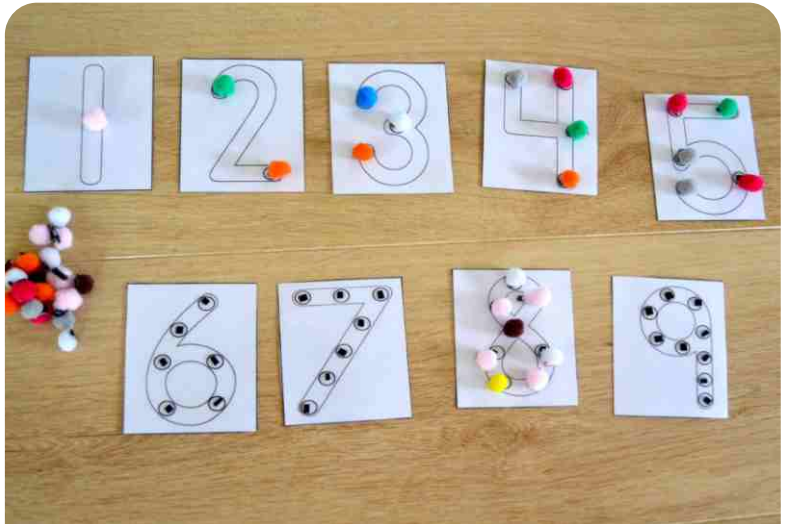
Touch numbers – fabric on cardboard



Sandpaper numbers – sandpaper on woodchip board



Pairing beads with numbers (colour as a check)



Bobbles to put on cards – by magnets

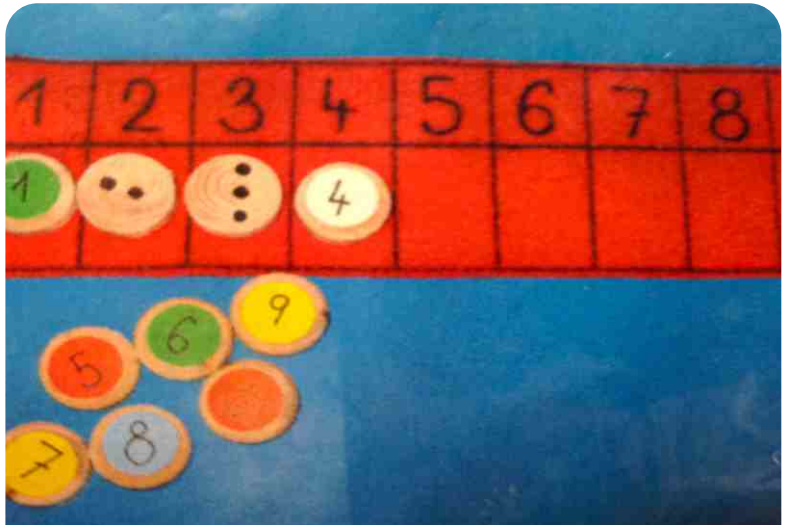
Connecting quantity and symbols



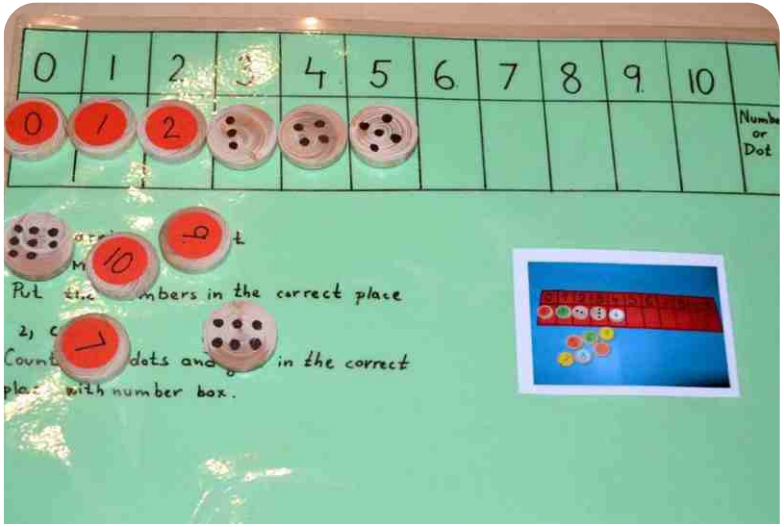
Pairing numbers and quantity on sticks



Wooden blocks on laminated cards



Wooden circles – one side with number,
the other with correct number of dots – on felt base



Wooden circles on laminated board –
pairing numbers with numbers or with dots

Connecting quantity and symbols



Matching foam letter to laminate card by the number of animals on the picture



Counting dots on the ladybird



Placing beans on strawberry card (with number)



Felt pizza with written number – number of tomatoes

Connecting quantity and symbols



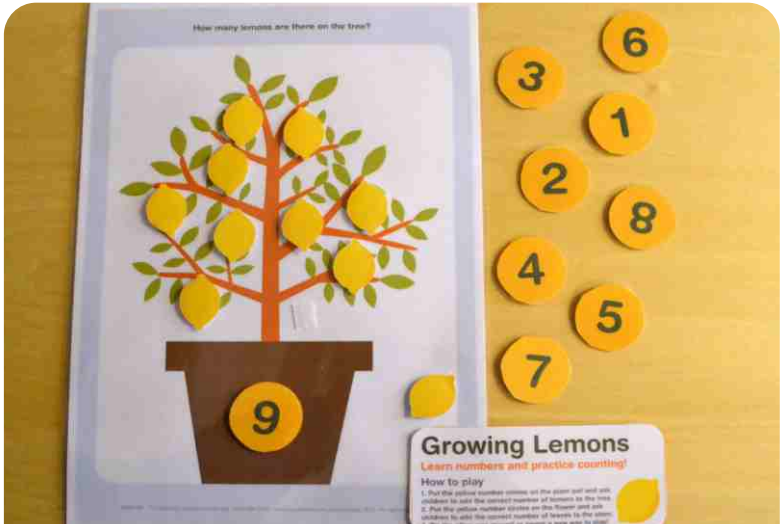
Cars on beans



Child marks the correct number with a peg
(other side has a dot for checking)



Pairing – buttons on cardboard and number on fabric (attached by Velcro)



Lemons – attached by Velcro

Montessori parenting.org

Connecting quantity and symbols



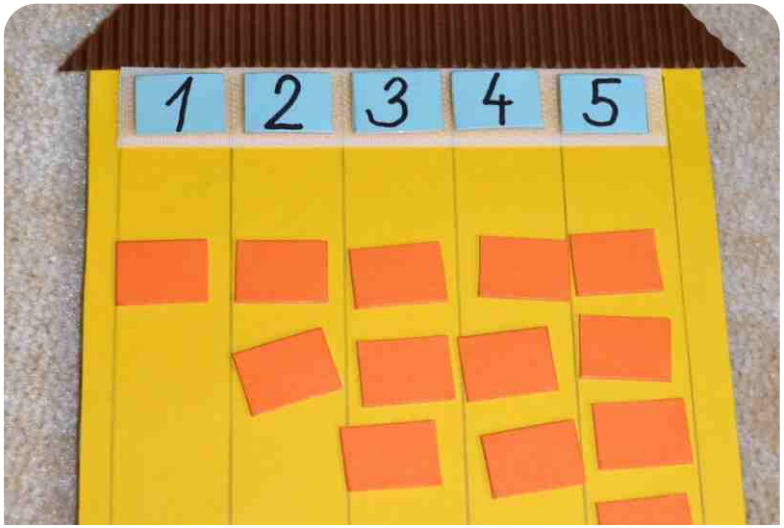
Bobbles on laminated caterpillar



Fish in the fish tank by thrown dice (number and colour)



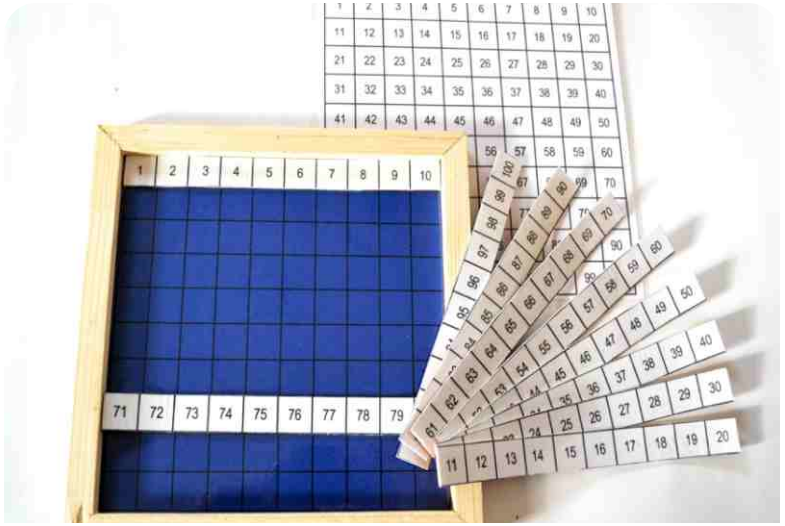
Inserting knobs by number



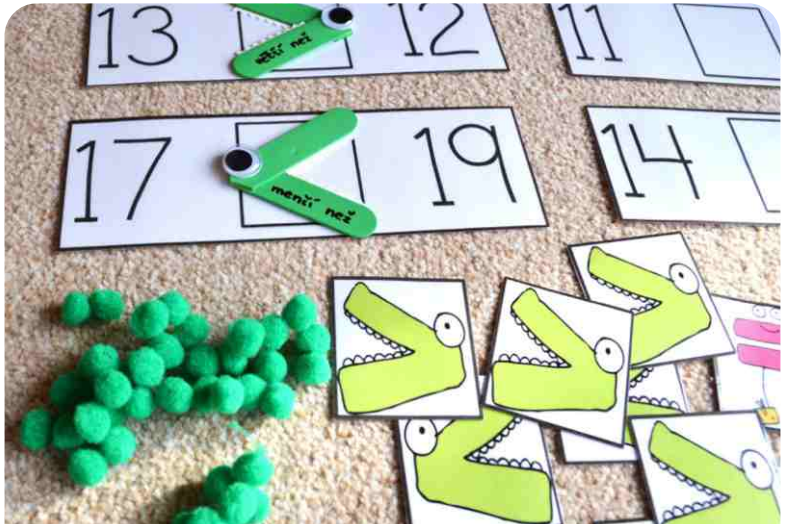
House with the number of windows per symbol

Montessori parenting.org

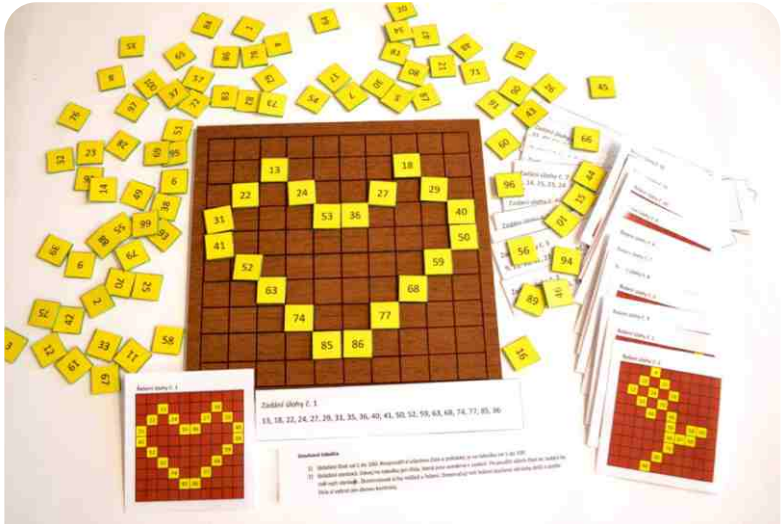
Numbers 1 - 100



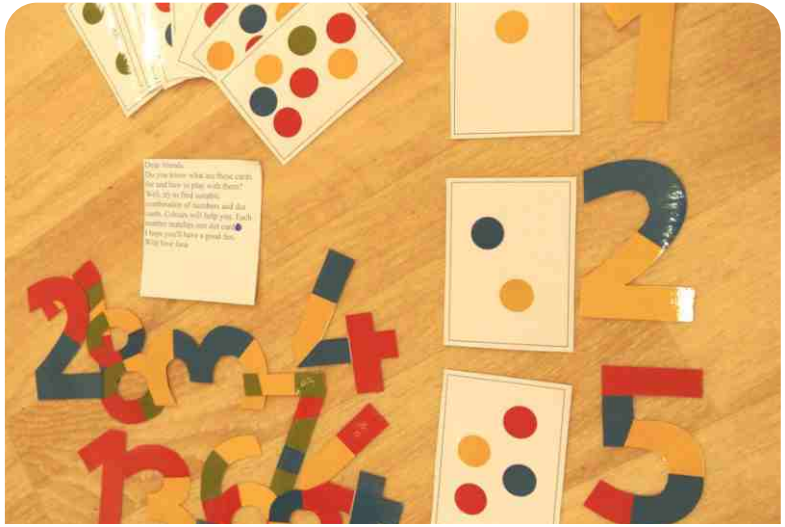
Hundred board (numbers need to be cut out)



Bigger, smaller, equals



Hundred board (with template and results cards)



Pairing the numbers by quantity and colour of dots

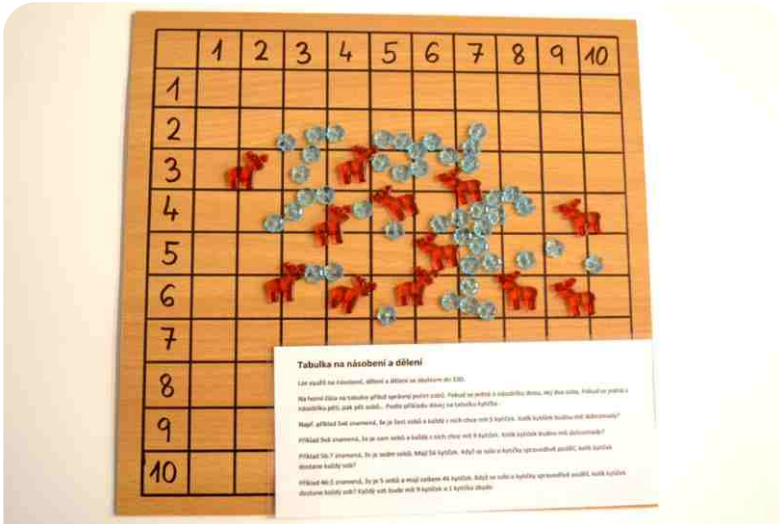
Elementary mathematical operations



Exercises on pegs for matching to results



Counting with wooden circles on a base



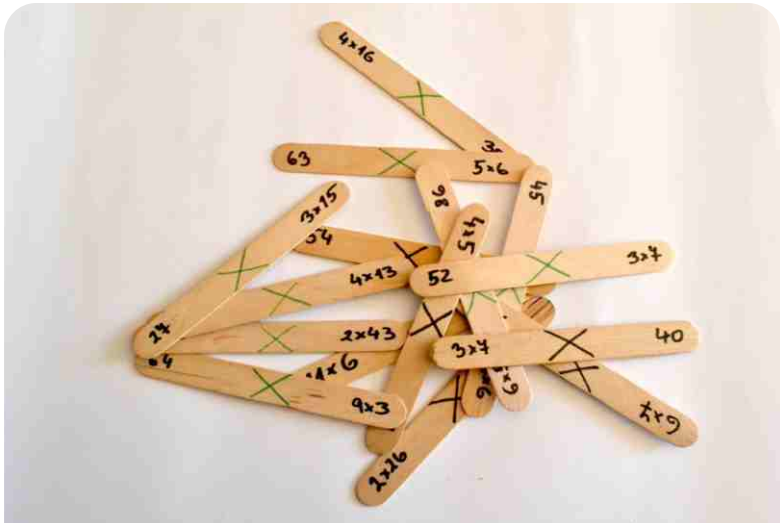
Division and Multiplication board



Division and Multiplication board – on a laminated paper

Montessori parenting.org

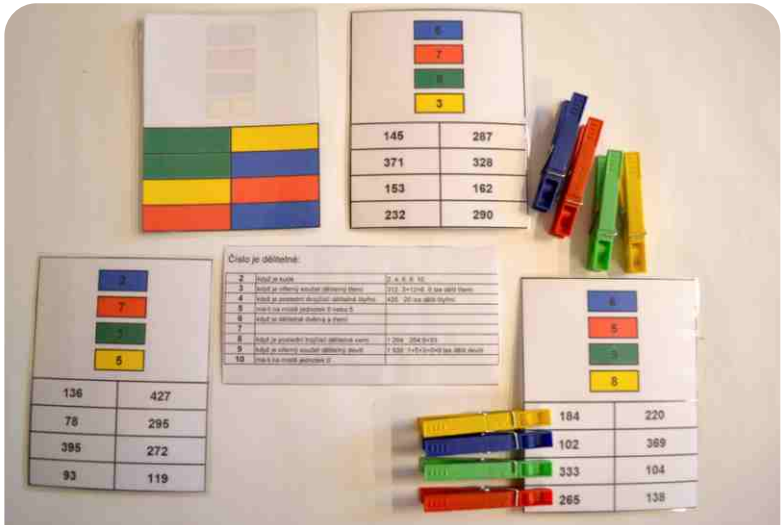
Elementary mathematical operations



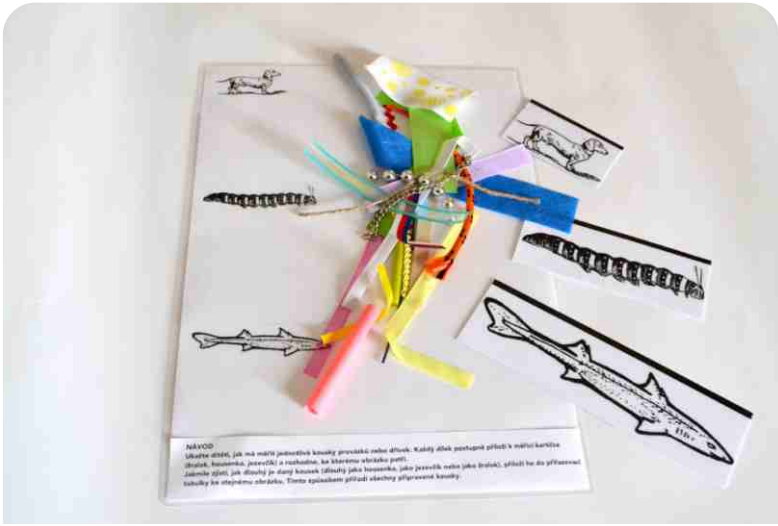
Number exercise domino on spatulas



Multiplying fans

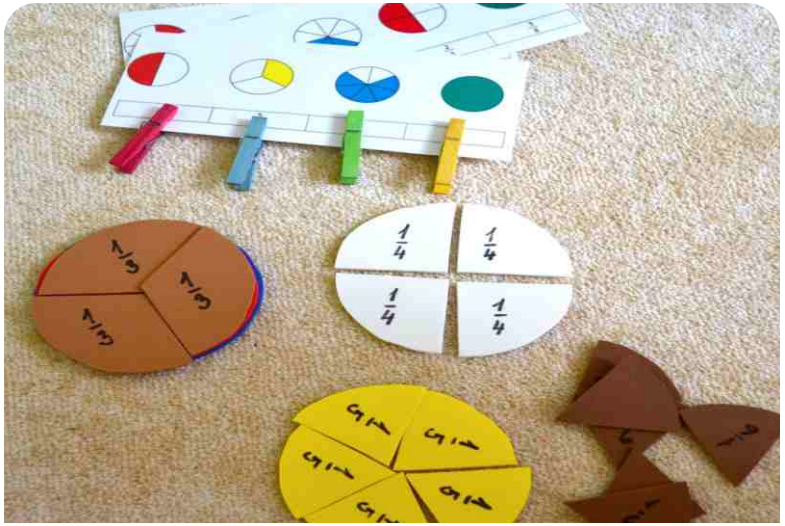


Divisibility of numbers



Measuring

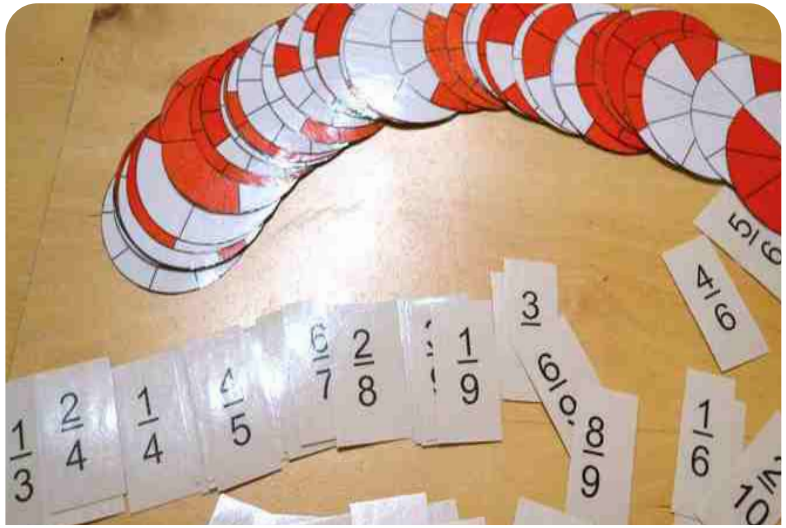
Elementary mathematical operations



Foam fractions and matching tasks on cards



Fractions on round geoboard

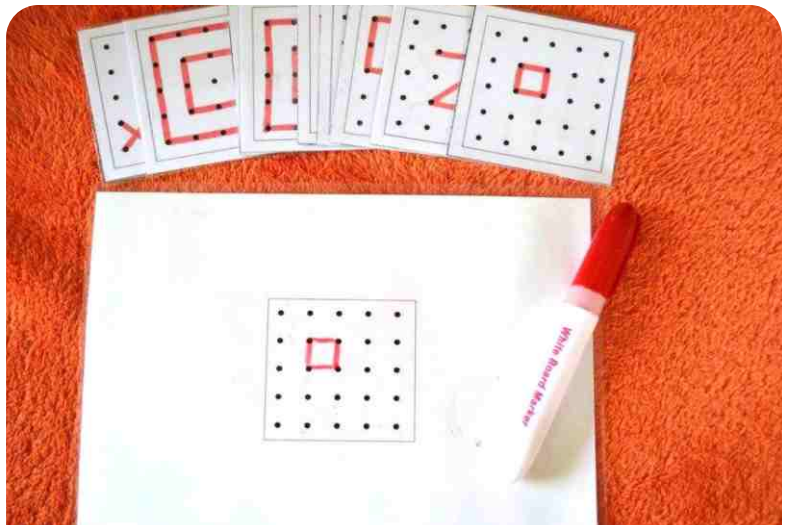


Fractions – pairing with representation on the circle



Moving number tiles – puzzle

Elementary mathematical operations



Drawing figure into the grid



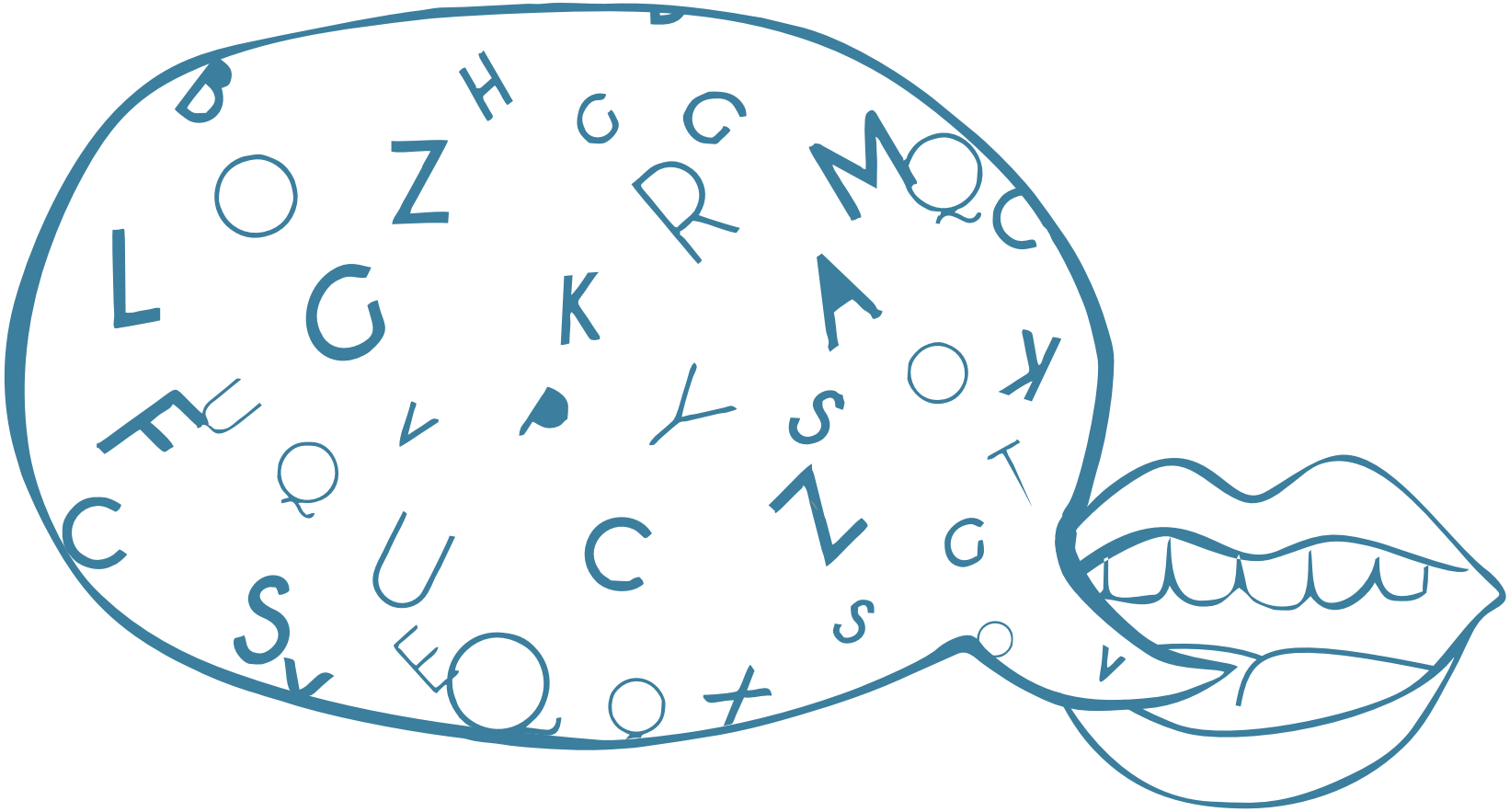
Counting the number on dice with colourful grid



Placing flowers into the garden by attached cards



Looking for number per the colour and number on the dice



Language development

Montessori parenting.org

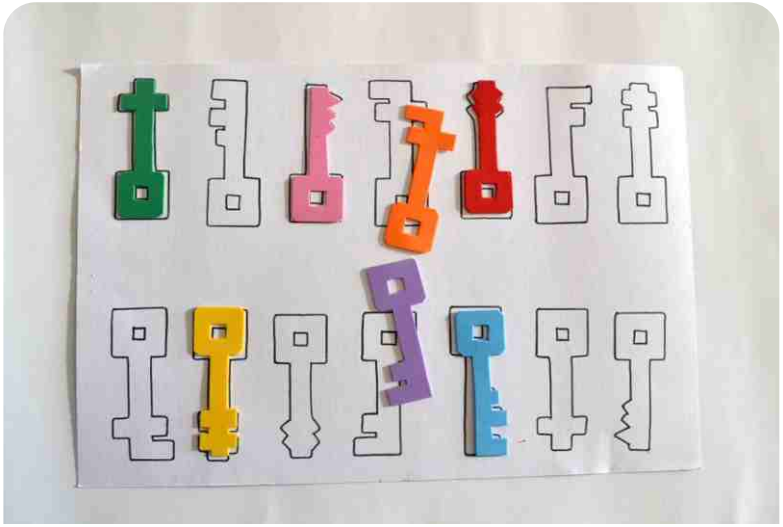
Pairing, categorising



Completing the felt butterfly per attached card



Completing the felt butterfly per attached card



Pairing – keys – per the shadow



Pairing- putting key into a pocket per the shadow

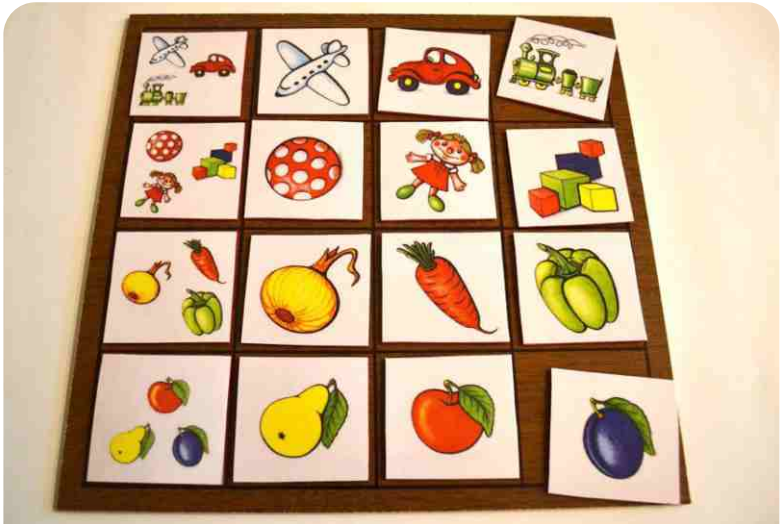
Pairing, categorising



Memory game in lids



Pairing buttons per size and shape



Categorising by groups



Pairing – photo of an animal with its picture

Párování, Kategorizace



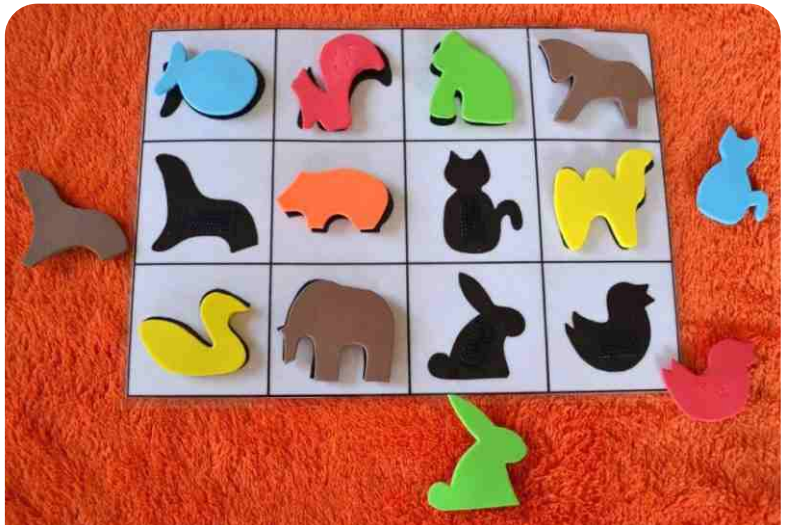
Pairing – shadows – laminated cards



Pairing with shadows – made from felt



Pairing in the picture – foam with Velcro



Pairing – foam animal shadows

Telling stories based on pictures



Story cubes – with stickers (drawn or printed)



Wooden story cubes



Story stones

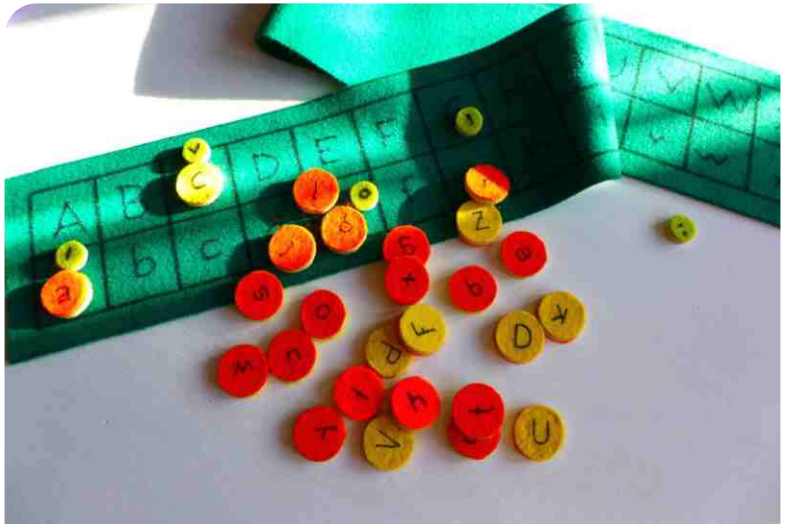


Story pictures

Beginning of reading and writing



Touch letters (sandpaper on paper) with writing in sand



Pairing up upper-case and lower-case letters (wooden circles with felt)



Touch letters (foam on hard paper)



Pairing up upper-case and lower-case letters (eggs)

Beginning of reading and writing



Creating short words with blocks



Creating short words with pegs from a template



Matching lids with initial letters



Matching pegs with initial letters, pairing up upper-case and lower-case letters

Montessori parenting.org

Beginning of reading and writing



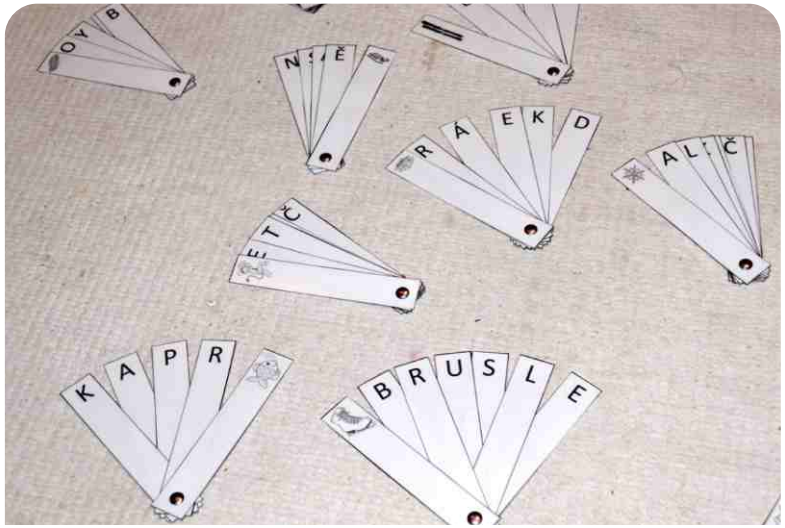
Creating short words with beads
(only a picture on then other side, this side is for error control)



Making movable alphabet from hardening clay



Pairing picture with a word



Fans with words

Montessori parenting.org

Beginning of reading and writing



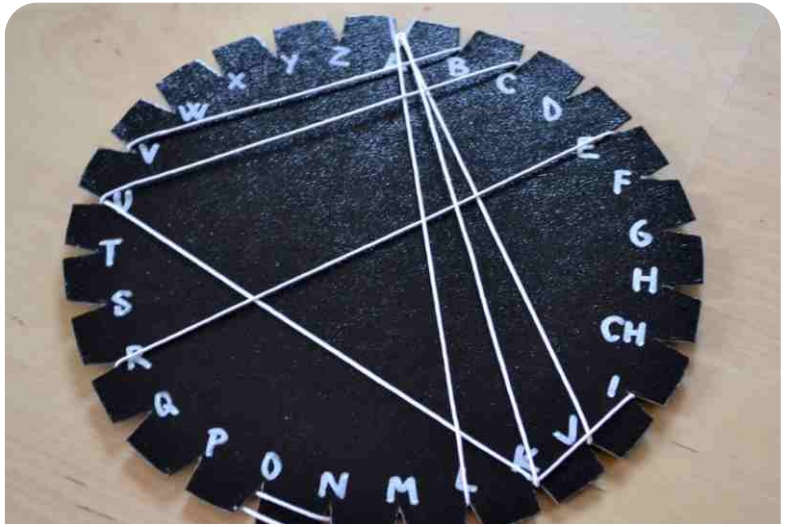
Puzzle – creating letters



Domino – initial letters



Writing into paint in a resealable bag



Making webs by connecting letters



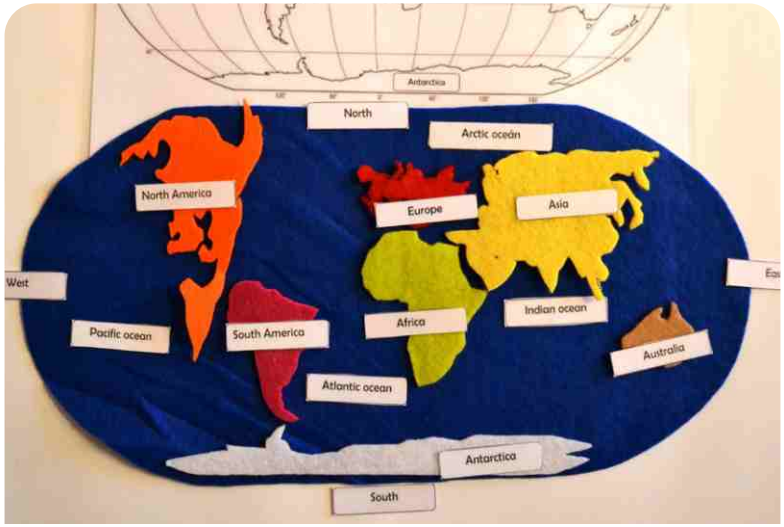
Children and the world around them

Montessori parenting.org

Zeměpis



Land and water cards (touch)



Map – continents – from felt



Flags on toothpicks (attaching to map)



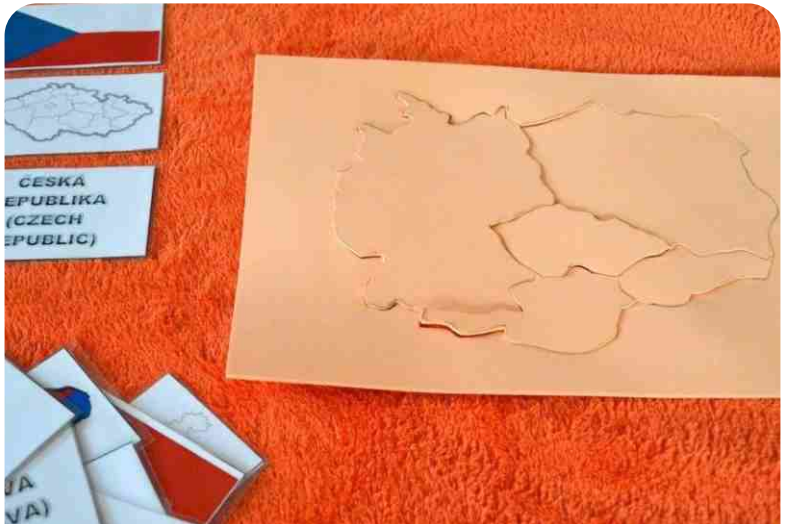
Flags from foam (laying on map)

Montessori parenting.org

Geography



Me on the map



The Czech Republic and surrounding states (foam puzzle)



Puzzle – continents – matching animals to where they live



The highest mountains of the world

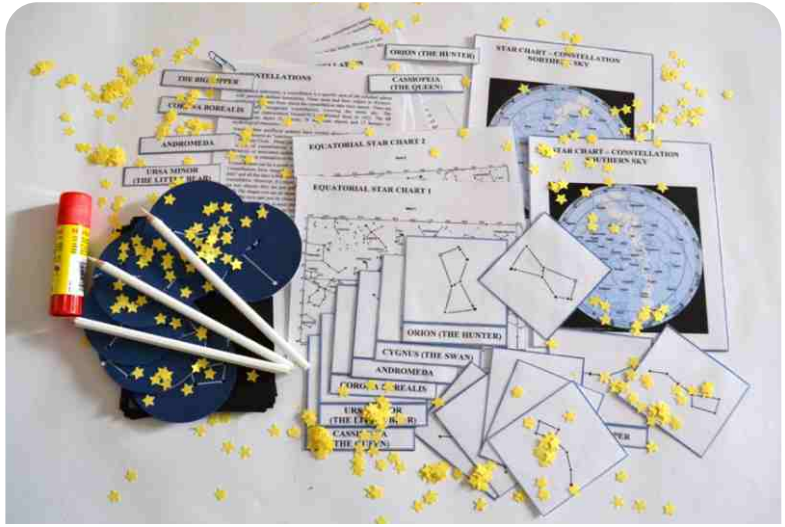
Universe, stars, planets



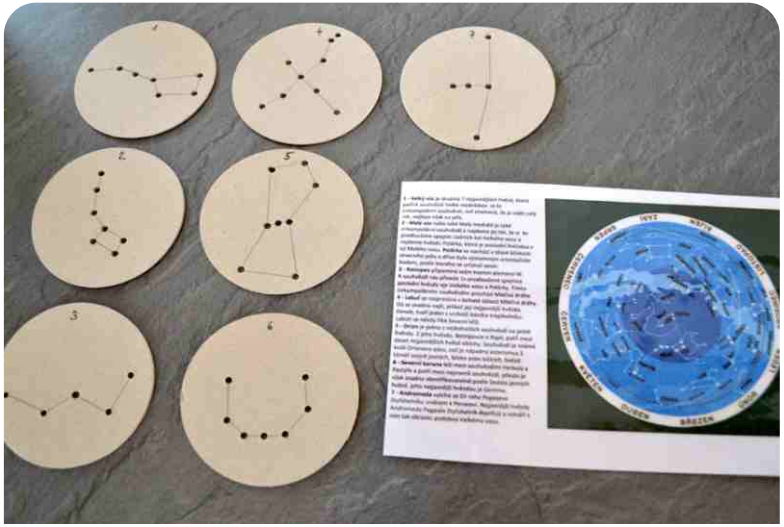
The structure of the Earth



Constellations – felt base and stars, laminated cards



Drawing constellations, gluing paper stars



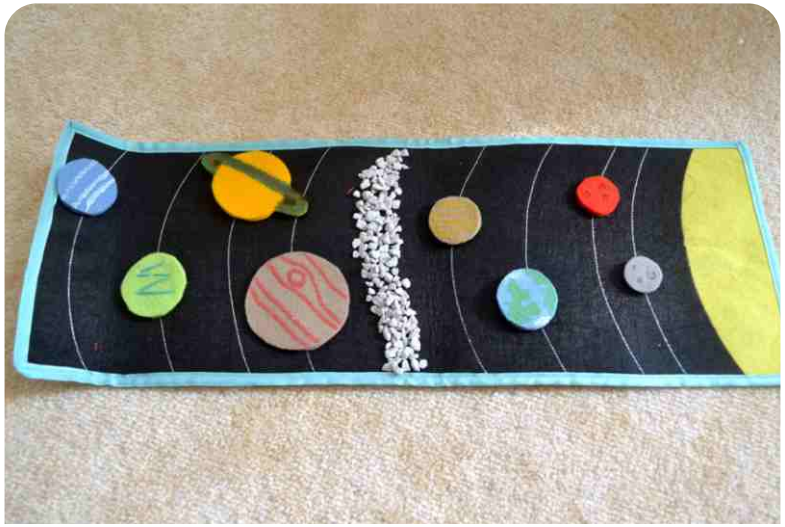
Constellations – lighting through holes in the cardboard

Montessori parenting.org

Universe, stars, planets



Planets – painted polystyrene balls



Felt planets without sewing

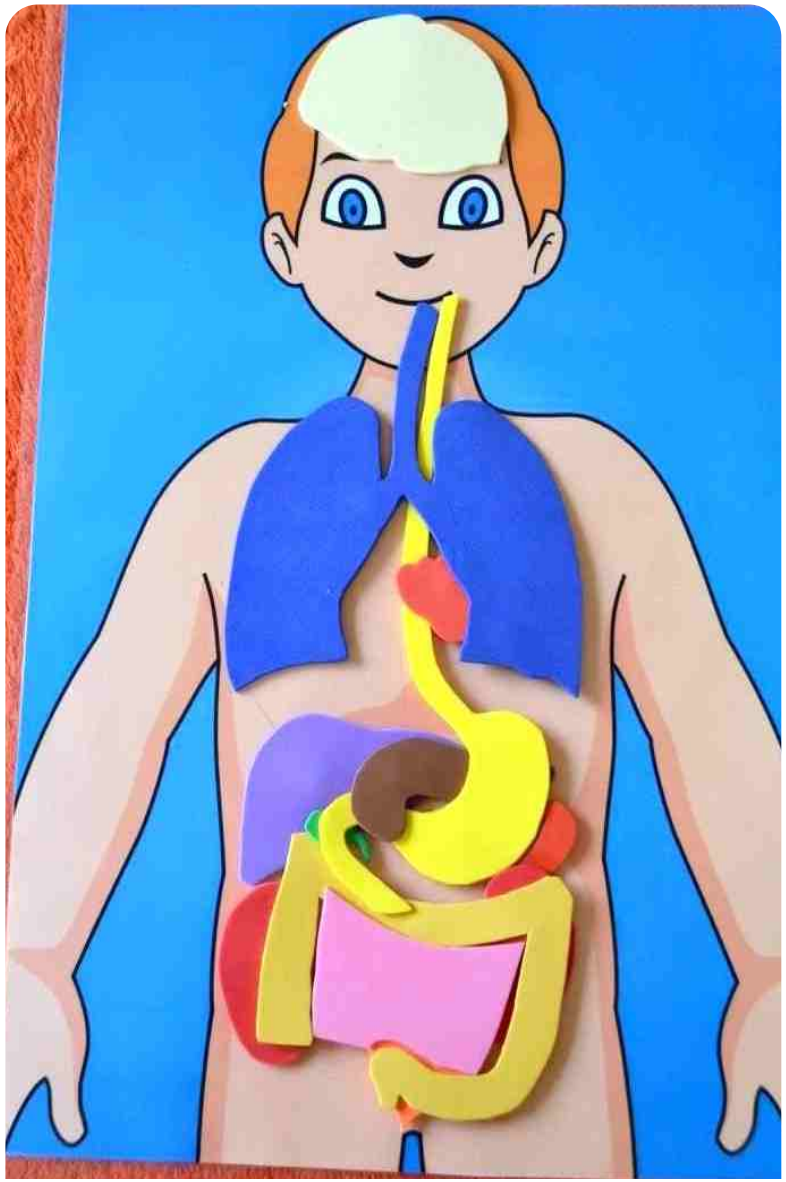


Sewn felt planets – pairing with names and cards

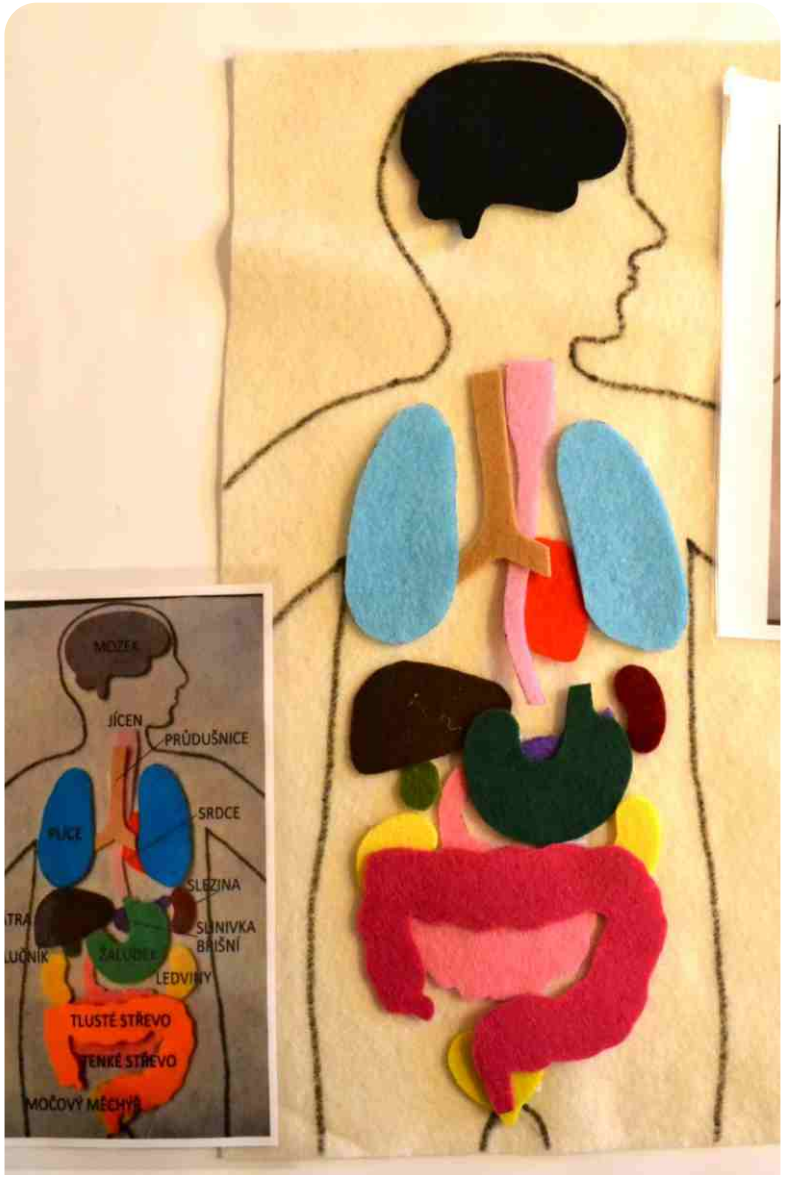


Moon phases

Human body



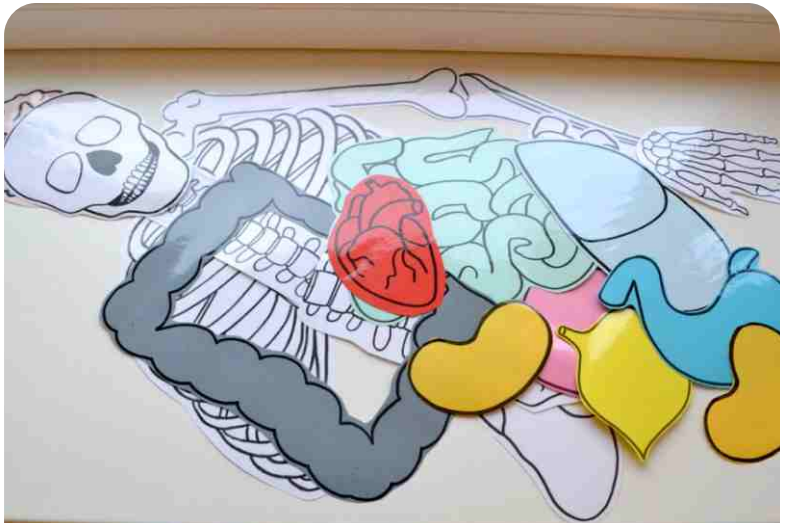
Foam internal organs



Felt internal organs

Montessori parenting.org

Human body



Puzzle – skeleton, organs



Brushing teeth (including thread, brush, bits of food)



Cells in the body



Structure of cells

Biology and zoology



Pairing up animal families



Animal footprints – stamps on a wooden block from foam

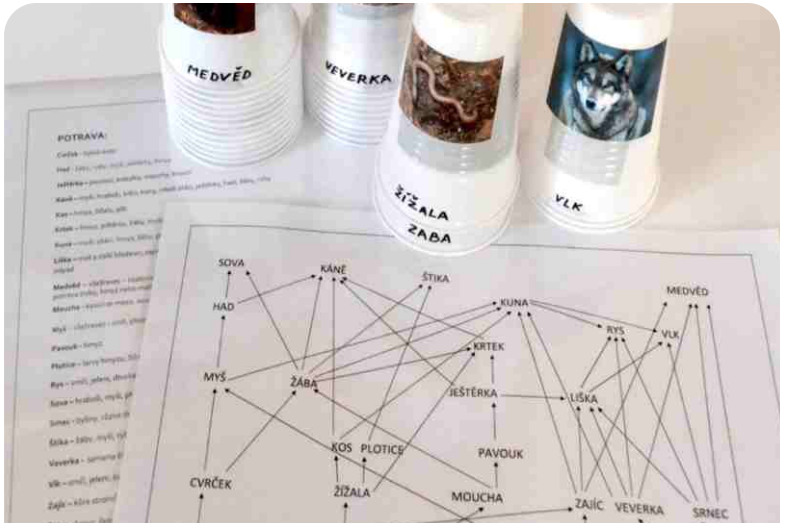


Dividing birds based on places where they live



Matching butterfly wings (for older kids, name cards can be added)

Biology and zoology



Food chains



Quartet – life cycles



Food chains



Life cycles on foam cards

Montessori parenting.org

Biology and zoology



Making dinosaurs from pasta



Which environment does the animal live in?



Dinosaurs – puzzle, sewing through, memory game

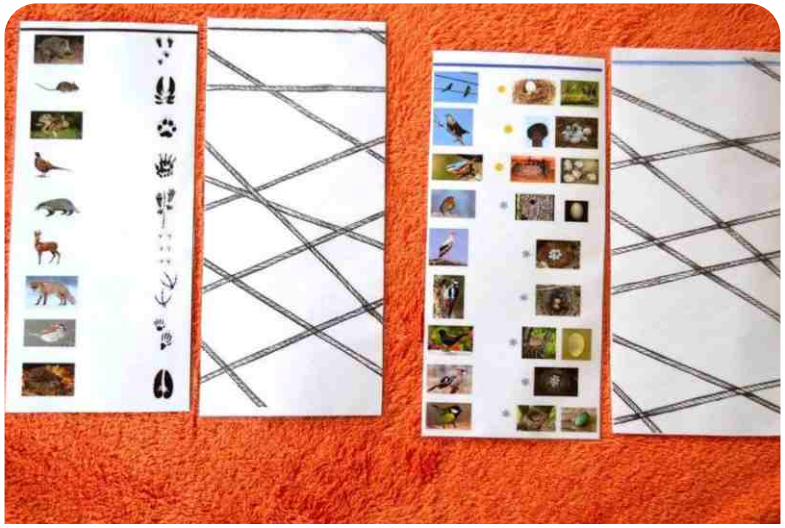


Matching animals with their homes (matchboxes)

Biology and zoology



Rolling string (trees and their fruits), check card on the other side



Another rolling string with the check cards
(animals and their footprints, birds and their eggs)



Matching – felt animals on pegs and their food



Herbarium of leaves (with pictures of trees)

Biology and zoology



Matching seeds with picture and photo of the plant



Life cycle of apple and apple structure from felt



Matching minerals with their names by attached board



Matching minerals with their names and pictures

Time, Calendar



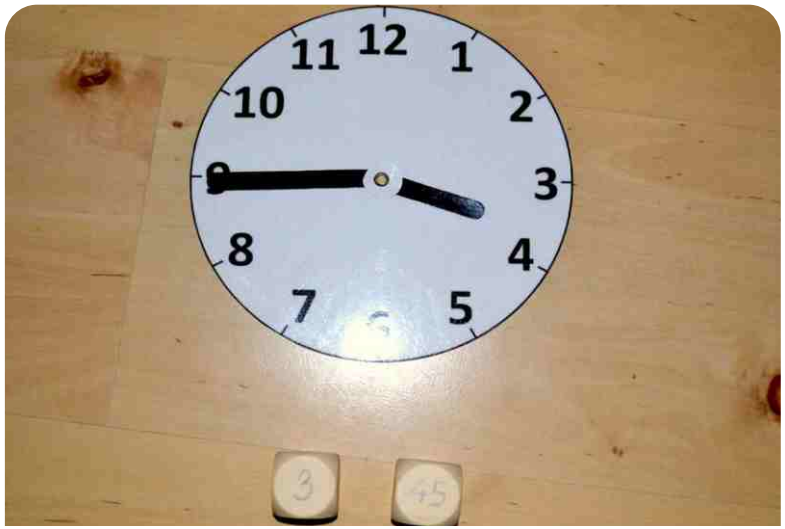
Seasons, months, weather (laminated cards, felt, cotton wool)



Velcro calendar Clock (felt, fabric)



Clock (felt, fabric)



Laminated clock, dices with time

Weather



Cards with phenomena helping to determine the weather (plus book)



Assessing weather of the day – from felt in frame



Seasons, months and our corresponding clothes



Today's weather – painted on felt

Emotions



Laminated cards, Velcro



Making faces from felt



Matching emotions (on pegs) with photos of children in various situations



Matching emotions (on pegs) with photos of children in various situations

Montessori parenting.org

Other activities



First aid – cards, instructions, tasks



Making pizza per menu



Shopping trolley – shopping per list



Jobs and tools that people need for them

Other activities



Looking for objects in sewn packet with rice



Looking for object in a bottle



Theatre



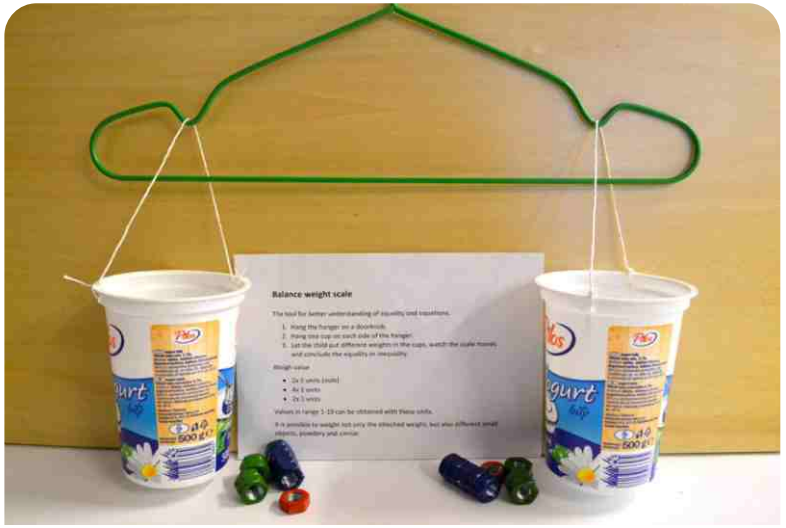
Shadow theatre for projection on the wall

Montessori parenting.org

Other activities



Where do the means of the transport belong to? (water, land, air)

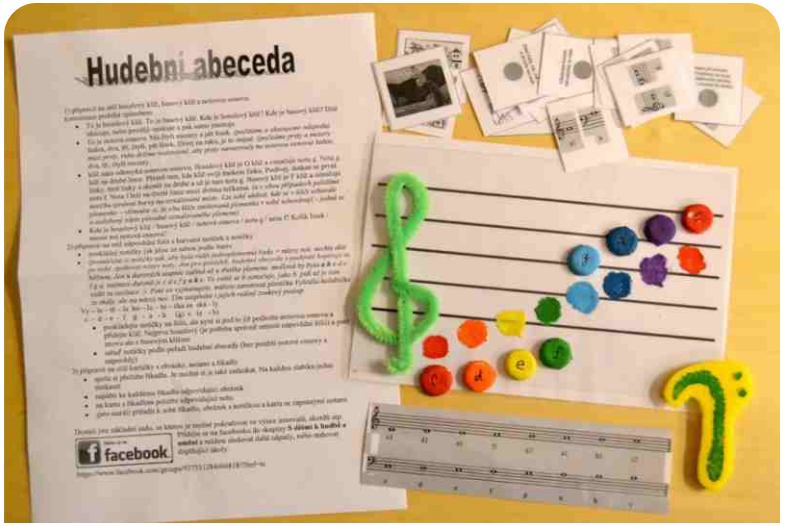


Scales on clothes hanger

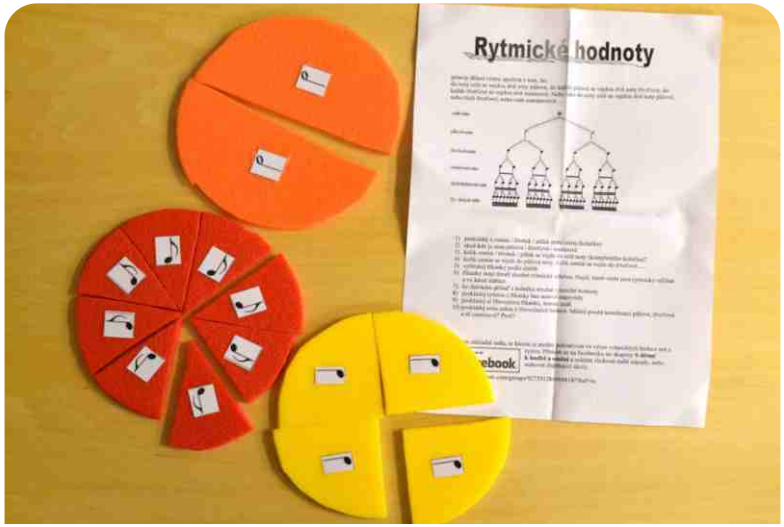


Traffic signs on toothpicks and in lids

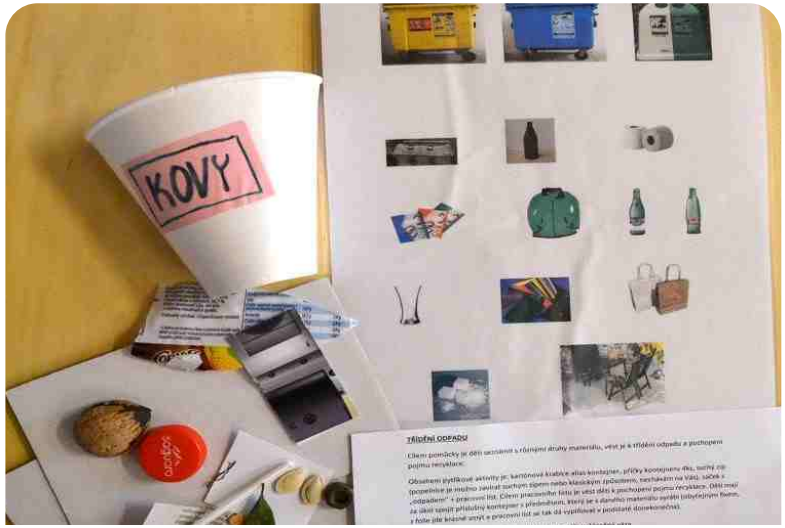
Other activities



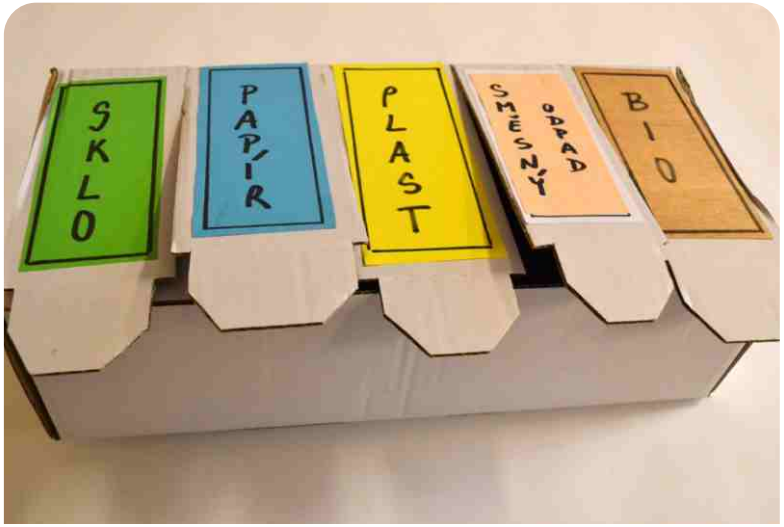
Colourful musical alphabet



Rhythmical figures in music



Recycling of waste



Recycling of waste

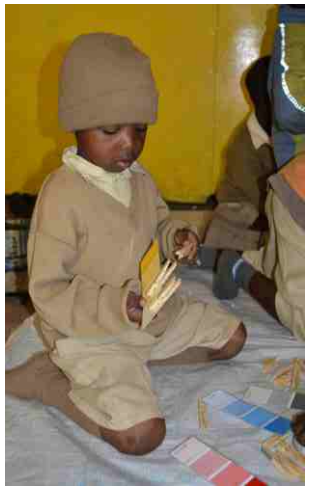
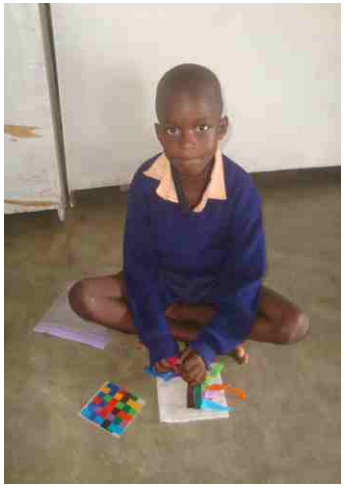
Montessori parenting.org

Centrum Dialog

Lastly, I'd like to share some photographs with you which show how one small thing can have a big impact somewhere else in the world.
Here are some shots from schools where some of the activities got to in the end.
The rest of the activities were sold (and will be sold) and the profit will support a project of building libraries in Kenya.






„Be the change you wish to see in the world."
Mahátma Gándhí

You can get more information about these projects and Support of education for needy children on **www.CentrumDialog.cz**

Montessori parenting.org


Montessori
parenting.org