

Using the MEMORY worksheets:

A/ Picture Games:

There are three sheets with 24 pictures in total to choose from. Young children might enjoy colouring them in before using them.

**What's Missing** - Lay out 6 pictures in a row facing up and ask your child to look away while you take one picture away. They must tell you which one you have taken out. A harder variation is if you arrange them in a random way on the table and then after you take one away you move them around again. Once 6 pictures become too easy add more.

**Pairs:** You need two sets of pictures to play pairs. Choose 12 pairs and arrange them on the table in a grid, 4 x 3, face down. One person turns two over and if they are not a matching pair then they turn them back and another person has a turn. Once this becomes easy then add more pairs. You may have to mount the pictures on card if you can see through the back of the paper.

B/ The Memory Lines and Grids:

These are a series of patterns using shapes, colour, numbers, letters and pictures for the children to study and then answer questions to stretch their memory skills. All the memory line and grid worksheets have accompanying notes and example questions for each of the sections below. The grids also have blank answer sheets to record responses.

**Sequencing:** With the pattern sheet in front of him a child is given a sequence orally and then has to repeat it by pointing to the numbers, letters, etc. on the grid. This starts with an easy example, such as point to the 3, 5 and circle. The child must point to these in the order given. The sequences get harder with up to six for them to remember.

**Direct Recall:** There is a set of questions requiring a direct recall of the patterns. The child can study the pattern for 2 minutes and then the sheet is taken away. A number of questions is then asked about the pattern sheet.

**Processing information:** The child may need another minute after the above exercises to remind themselves about the pattern on the sheet. These questions are different in that they require the child to use what they remember in order to solve a problem. This is really hard and children may need to study the pattern sheet for a longer time.

*With all the activities above it is better to do short 10 minute spells every day rather than a long session once a week. Even twice a day, at the beginning and end of a session, would give even greater benefits.*

***IF YOU NEED MORE GRIDS JUST E-MAIL ME AND I'LL EASILY MAKE MORE FOR THE SITE.***

***Gordon Aspland  
www.steps2learning.co.uk***