

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Sorting activity</b>		
<b>Key:</b>	Due the various abilities of our children we have graded some of the activities into different levels. Your child may access different levels depending on the activity as well as their ability.	<b>Contact details:</b>	<a href="mailto:schools@cdssgroup.org.uk">schools@cdssgroup.org.uk</a>
<b>Seeds</b>		All Education Advocates access this email. Sarah Larkin (Cheshire West) Becky Harris (Cheshire West) Yvonne Edwardson (Cheshire East)	
<b>Saplings</b>			
<b>Trees</b>			

### Brief description of Activity

This game is to help children sort objects into different groups or categories. You can use real items or photographs. Choose objects that can be divided into distinct groups for example;  
Toys/clothes  
Animals/food

### Resources needed

Whatever you decide to sort. The real items are best but not always possible, photographs are a good substitute too but picture resources are often more varied and more accessible.

### Activity: *Seeds*

Set out all the objects or photographs on the floor and explain to your child that you are going to do some sorting. Tell them that you need to find all the animals and all the food and separate them to different sides of the room. Discuss with your child about why the object or photograph goes in one group and not in the other. "A monkey. Do we eat a monkey? No, it's not food is it, it is an animal"  
If your child is finding it tricky, use one group name only for example, food and not food. It will be easier for your child to decide if something fits into one group then deciding between two groups.  
If it is too easy, divide the same objects or photographs into harder groups for example all the red ones, all the black ones, or sorting by texture – smooth/bumpy or size big/little etc.

You could do this to support putting items away after use, make it into a game and take turns to find items to go into the correct box. Bricks in one box, books in another etc.

Using Makaton symbols for each category will reinforce what items you are collecting. Attached is a Makaton resource for sorting items that can be eaten or not eaten, what items belong inside or outside, which are soft or hard. (hat tip Jane Mullen SALT)

### Activity: *Saplings and Trees*

Sometimes items can fit into both categories e.g. some food can be eaten hot or cold.

You could draw a Venn diagram and put the items that fall into both categories in the middle. The items below show items used in summer and winter and those used in both seasons.

A blank Venn diagram is attached.

You could also play the name 5 things game attached. Take it in turn to see if you can name 5 things from the categories. Add up the number you can think of and the person who names the most is the winner.

It is easier to sort into different categories than it is to name the category an item belongs too. If your child is confident with different then you could play the guess the category game attached.



### Attachments:

- Makaton category sorting symbols
- Clothes, animals and food sorting
- Name 5 things.
- Blank Venn diagram

### Cheshire Downs Syndrome Support Group

Registered Charity Number 1146127.

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