



THINKING SKILLS ACTIVITIES

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Young children need to develop different thinking skills ...

- working memory
- predicting and hypothesising
- categorising
- sequencing
- visual observation skills
- creative thinking



4 THINKING SKILLS ACTIVITIES TO TRY WITH YOUR YOUNG LEARNERS

1 Prediction and hypothesising

Gradually reveal a flashcard and ask children to guess what it is. Ask *What is it? Can you guess?*

Show a story card before you tell a story and ask the children to make predictions. *Mimi and Dylan are at Aunt Emma's farm. What animals do you think they see?*

2 Categorising

Use two sets of vocabulary flashcards that the children already know, for example, toys and animals. Mix up the flashcards and ask the class to sort the items into two sets.



3 Sequencing

After telling a story, invite a group of children to the front of the class. Give each child a story card. Ask other children to help order the story cards and get the children holding the story cards to stand in a line to show the order of events. Now re-tell the story.

4 Developing memory skills

Show children a picture or a poster for about thirty seconds. Ask them to look carefully and remember what's in it. Cover the picture or poster and ask children to tell you what they can remember.

TOP TIP: Use categorising activities to reinforce concepts, for example, big animals or little animals or food that grows in the garden and food that doesn't.