

## Concept Sorts

### **What are “Concept Sorts” and why are they important?**

“Concept Sorts” (Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton & Johnston, 1996) help your child develop vocabulary knowledge and increase his understanding of concepts.

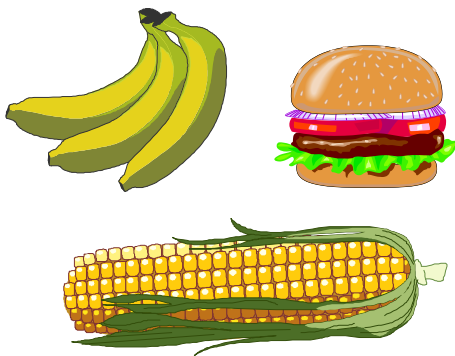
### **How can I use “Concept Sorts” with my child?**

Objects and events that are part of your child’s daily life and culture provide an excellent starting point for sorting. For example, general topics such as animals, food, people, clothing and occupations all provide opportunities for sorting information into different categories. Ideas for “Concept Sorts” can also be developed from reading books with your child. After reading Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (Viorst, 1972), your child could sort the events in the book into good and bad happenings.

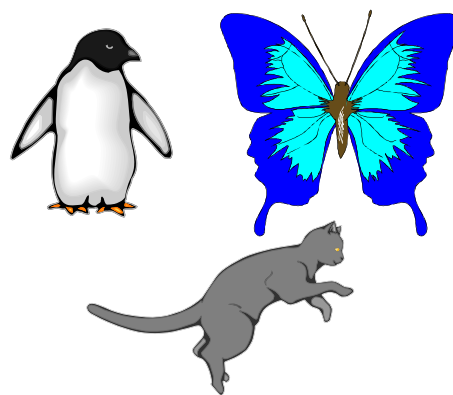
To prepare for a “Concept Sort,” collect pictures from two or more categories. For example, collect pictures of animals and pictures of foods. Encourage your child to study the pictures. Discuss with your child how the objects are similar and different. Have your child construct labels for each category. For example, your child would label one category ANIMALS and one category FOODS. Your child can then sort each picture into the appropriate category. Encourage your child to draw or cut out additional objects that would fit into each category. Families with computers may want to use clip art to find pictures of different categories.

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### **FOODS**



### **ANIMALS**





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