



Thinking Abilities and General Knowledge Activity for 48 to 54 Months

Pot of Gold

Through repeated experiences with this game, children gain a better understanding of directionality and positions of objects

Materials:

- Black marker
- Black poster board
- Gold or yellow construction paper cut into 4-inch squares; one per child

To make:

1. Cut out a large black pot, like a cauldron, from the poster board.
2. Use the masking tape and attach the pot to the wall at child's eye level.
3. Cover the pot with clear contact paper or laminate.
4. Use the black marker to draw 3-inch circles on the construction paper squares, then write the child's name on the inside of the circle.

What to do:

1. Invite the child to cut out gold coins from the construction paper.
2. Show the child the "pot" on the wall. Ask him if he knows where the bottom of the pot is located. The top? Instruct him to fill the pot with gold coins.
3. Place a piece of masking tape on the back of the coin. Blindfold the child and twirl him three times while counting. Have the child try to stick his coin on the pot. (For a younger child, you might play this game without the blindfold. Simply ask him to place the coin at the top or bottom of the pot.)
4. Count with the child the number of coins that ended up on the pot, above the pot, under the pot, and next to the pot.

Variation:

- Play the game again but use letters to create a batch of "alphabet soup."

