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September Activity Sheet

I Packed My School-bag...

Play this favourite memory game with a new term twist

You will need:

About 8 pictures of everyday school/nursery items - see next page for some pictures to get you started
Some little counters or smarties
A school 'book-bag' or similar

2-3 Years: Sit together in a circle. Turn all your pictures upside down and lay them out on the floor. Keep the book-bag close to you. Pick up a picture, e.g. a lunchbox, and start by saying "I packed my school-bag and in it I put...my lunchbox".



The next person then picks up a new picture, e.g. a pencil, and then says "I packed my school bag and in it I put my lunchbox and a pencil". Continue until all the pictures have been picked up. End by asking e.g. "Who's got the lunchbox?" Whoever has the correct picture puts it into the book-bag.

It may take a moment for a young player to get the idea of the game, so if possible make sure an adult or older sibling goes first and second.



Over 4 years: If an older player finds the game too easy with picture supports as suggested above, then try the following. Have a moment together to think of all the things they need for school – reading book, fruit, lunch, PE kit, pencils, colouring pencils, water bottle. Then play in the traditional way, i.e. everyone thinks up what needs to go in the bag and remembers without the help of picture cues.

If you remember correctly you get a counter. Whoever has the most counters wins!

How does this game help language to develop?

- ✓ By building topic-related vocabulary
- ✓ By improving memory skills
- ✓ By encouraging turn-taking and listening skills

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