

Individual Activity Lesson Plan

Date: Wednesday 22nd April 2020	
Activity Title: Exploring Symmetry	
Learning Intention: To create and recreate patterns.	Activity Overview: Your child will be introduced to symmetry and create a symmetrical pattern.
Links to EYFS: Mathematics: Uses familiar objects and common shapes to create and recreate patterns and build models.	
Resources: -Paper -Mirror -Felt tip pens -Duplo	Key vocabulary: Symmetry, symmetrical, same, match, pattern, shape, hands, mirror.
ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION (including key questions)	
<p><u>Introduction:</u></p> <p>*Ask your child to retell the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar.</p> <p>*Use the following questions:</p> <p>Who is the main character in the story?</p> <p>What happened in the story?</p> <p>How did the story ending make you feel and why?</p> <p>*Show your child the images of butterflies below.</p> <p>What do you notice about the butterfly's wings?</p> <p>Are the wings the same and how?</p> <p>What do you notice about the colours?</p> <p>Explain the idea of symmetry to your child.</p> <p><u>Main Activity:</u></p> <p>*Ask your child place their hands together palm to palm.</p> <p>*Notice how the thumb touches the thumb, and the other fingers touch their match as well?</p> <p>*Now ask them to open up their hands so that only the pinky fingers are touching side to side and their palms are now facing upwards.</p> <p>*Now, both thumbs are on the outside, both pinky fingers are on the inside.</p> <p>This is what symmetry looks like: just like a mirror image.</p> <p>*Draw a vertical line on a piece of paper.</p> <p>*Using Duplo (or other construction materials – different colours work well), create a pattern against the vertical line on one side.</p> <p>*Hold a mirror on the vertical and show your child how both sides are the same.</p> <p>*Ask your child to copy the pattern on the other side of the line.</p> <p>*Encourage your child to check if they match.</p> <p>Do you need to move any pieces?</p> <p><u>Challenge:</u></p> <p>Now invite your child to create his/her own symmetrical pattern, using construction materials on either side of a vertical line. Or he/she may want to create a 3D model using symmetry – it is amazing how many children naturally use symmetry in their construction.</p>	



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Additional ways to support your child:

Make a symmetrical pattern (using the building blocks you have available and a piece of a paper with a line down the centre). Leave just one block missing. Use a mirror to explore what the reflection should look like. Can your child find the one missing block to complete both sides of the symmetrical pattern?

Extension:

Once your child understands the concept of symmetry, go on a “symmetry hunt!” Where can you find symmetry in your house?

