# Categories Worksheet

Naming the group, naming things in it, and spotting the one that does not belong.



MASTERED BY
**Sorting by an obvious feature from about 3**

ITEMS
**70**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Categories are how vocabulary gets organized in the head. A child who knows that a carrot is a vegetable, a food and a thing that grows can find the word three ways, and can learn a new vegetable in one go. Category work has three directions: given the members, name the group; given the group, name members; given a set with one stranger in it, find the stranger and say why. The last one is the hardest, because it needs the rule the others share.

What to expect: Young children sort by what things look like or where they are found ("the spoon goes with the bowl") before they sort by kind. That is not wrong, and "why do those go together?" is the question that moves it along. A child who can sort but cannot name the group ("these are all... um") has the concept and needs the word; a child who names one member when asked for the group ("what are these? - a cow") needs the idea that a word can stand for a set.

## Name the Group

Three pictures. What are they all? Accept the category name, then ask for one more thing that belongs.

1. pig, cow, sheep - What are they all?
2. apple, banana, grapes - What are they all?
3. car, bus, truck - What are they all?
4. shirt, hat, sock - What are they all?
5. bed, chair, table - What are they all?
6. hand, foot, nose - What are they all?
7. ball, doll, kite - What are they all?
8. drum, guitar, piano - What are they all?

9. fish, whale, shark - What are they all?
10. bee, ant, butterfly - What are they all?
11. cup, spoon, plate - What are they all?
12. rain, snow, sun - What are they all?
13. circle, square, star - What are they all?
14. carrot, corn, broccoli - What are they all?
15. doctor, teacher, farmer - What are they all?
16. lion, tiger, elephant - What are they all?
17. milk, juice, water - What are they all?
18. pencil, crayon, paint - What are they all?

## Which One Does Not Belong?

Four pictures, one stranger. The child points to it and says why. "Why?" is the whole task - a point without a reason is half marks.

19. pig, cow, sheep, car - Which one does not belong?
20. apple, banana, shoe, grapes - Which one does not belong?
21. bus, truck, train, bed - Which one does not belong?
22. hat, sock, shirt, spoon - Which one does not belong?
23. chair, table, couch, fish - Which one does not belong?
24. ball, kite, doll, carrot - Which one does not belong?
25. drum, guitar, piano, lion - Which one does not belong?
26. whale, shark, crab, horse - Which one does not belong?
27. bee, ant, butterfly, cup - Which one does not belong?
28. rain, snow, cloud, banana - Which one does not belong?
29. circle, square, star, dog - Which one does not belong?

30 corn, broccoli, carrot, kite - Which one does not belong?

31 milk, juice, water, hammer - Which one does not belong?

32 pencil, crayon, paint, duck - Which one does not belong?

33 lion, tiger, elephant, bread - Which one does not belong?

34 doctor, teacher, farmer, tree - Which one does not belong?

35 apple, orange, grapes, car - Which one does not belong?

36 boat, plane, bike, table - Which one does not belong?

## Name Three

The group is given; the child names members. Three is the target; count anything reasonable.

37 Name three animals.




38 Name three fruits.



39 Name three things that go.



40 Name three things you wear.



41 Name three things in a kitchen.



42 Name three things that are cold.



43 Name three things with wheels.



44 Name three things that fly.



45 Name three things you can drink.



46 Name three things in a bedroom.



47 Name three bugs.



48 Name three things that are hot.



49 Name three jobs.



50 Name three shapes.

51 Name three things at the beach.



52 Name three vegetables.



53 Name three farm animals.



54 Name three things you can read.



## Sort It

Two groups named, one thing to place. Ask "which group?" and then "how do you know?"

55 carrot - Is a carrot a food or a toy?

56 bus - Is a bus an animal or something that goes?

57 hat - Is a hat a clothes thing or a kitchen thing?

58 whale - Does a whale live in the sea or in the forest?

59 drum - Is a drum an instrument or a fruit?

60 bee - Is a bee a bug or a bird?

61 couch - Is a couch furniture or food?

62 banana - Is a banana a fruit or a vegetable?

63 snow - Is snow weather or a toy?

64 doctor - Is a doctor a job or an animal?

65 square - Is a square a shape or a color?

66 spoon - Do you eat with a spoon or wear it?

67 lion - Is a lion a farm animal or a wild animal?

68 juice - Is juice a drink or a toy?

69 pencil - Is a pencil for drawing or for eating?

70 kite - Is a kite a toy or a vegetable?

# Answer Key

### Name the Group

1. Farm animals
2. Fruit
3. Things that go, or vehicles
4. Clothes
5. Furniture
6. Parts of the body
7. Toys
8. Instruments
9. Sea animals, or things that live in the ocean
10. Bugs, or insects
11. Things in the kitchen, or things for eating
12. Weather
13. Shapes
14. Vegetables
15. People with jobs, or workers
16. Zoo animals, or wild animals
17. Drinks
18. Things for drawing, or art supplies

### Which One Does Not Belong?

19. The car - the others are animals
20. The shoe - the others are fruit
21. The bed - the others are things that go
22. The spoon - the others are clothes
23. The fish - the others are furniture
24. The carrot - the others are toys
25. The lion - the others are instruments
26. The horse - the others live in the sea
27. The cup - the others are bugs
28. The banana - the others are weather
29. The dog - the others are shapes
30. The kite - the others are vegetables
31. The hammer - the others are drinks
32. The duck - the others are for drawing
33. The bread - the others are wild animals
34. The tree - the others are people
35. The car - the others are fruit
36. The table - the others take you places

### Name Three

37. Any three - dog, cat, cow, lion...
38. Any three - apple, banana, orange...
39. Any three - car, bus, bike, train...
40. Any three - shirt, shoes, hat...
41. Any three - stove, spoon, fridge...
42. Any three - ice, snow, ice cream...
43. Any three - car, bike, wagon...
44. Any three - bird, plane, kite, bee...
45. Any three - milk, water, juice...
46. Any three - bed, lamp, pillow...
47. Any three - ant, bee, spider, butterfly...
48. Any three - sun, stove, soup, fire...
49. Any three - doctor, teacher, firefighter...
50. Any three - circle, square, triangle...
51. Any three - sand, shell, waves, bucket...
52. Any three - carrot, corn, peas...
53. Any three - pig, cow, chicken...
54. Any three - book, sign, letter...

### Sort It

55. A food
56. Something that goes
57. A clothes thing
58. In the sea
59. An instrument
60. A bug
61. Furniture
62. A fruit
63. Weather
64. A job

65. A shape
66. Eat with it
67. A wild animal
68. A drink
69. For drawing
70. A toy