

Playing games through touch

Age: 3–4 Years

Resources: Everyday items such as fabrics, papers and cardboard, plastic milk bottle lids

Tips:

Matching textures games are fun and simple to create. As you develop your own, you can gradually introduce new cards for your child to keep things fresh and fun.

Always create an organised play space, using a tray is helpful to ensure that the cards do not drift out of reach.

Activity:

- Make two copies of each **texture** by securely glueing to the card or inside a plastic milk bottle top. As your child gets used to the activity, you could extend the number of cards and textures.
- Pass your child one card and **encourage** them to describe it. You may need to model new language to your child, for example, 'This card feels scratchy, smooth, silky.'
- Encourage your child to **scan visually** from left to right or ask them to use touch to locate and explore each card. Give your child time to check if their new card matches the one in their hand. Reassure your child to use all of their senses to do so.
- Model the amount of time your child should take, **encourage** a careful, systematic approach and celebrate when together when any person playing the game finds a matching set.

- Take turns, use the **same techniques**, and keep the activity fun.
- To extend this activity, you could put **matching objects** in a bag and take turns to reach in and select two cards which match.



Notes:

Please supervise your child at all times while completing any of the activities outlined on this sheet. Stop any activity if your child becomes upset, unwell or you are unsure if you are completing it correctly.

If you would like any further advice or support, please contact the advice line on **0800 7811444** or via email **children@guidedogs.org.uk**