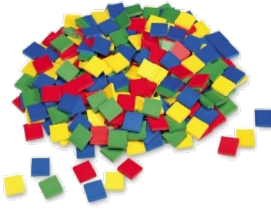


Color Tiles



Color Tiles are 1-inch squares, which come in 4 colors. Young children start by using Color Tiles to recognize and build patterns. As their mathematical understanding grows, they can use them for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Color Tiles can represent numbers in a number sentence or objects in a word problem.

Estimation Jars

Overview: In this activity, your child estimates and then counts the number of Color Tiles that fill a variety of containers.

Materials: Color Tiles, plastic containers of different sizes (3 or more)

- ❖ Put an assortment of Color Tiles in each container.
- ❖ Ask your child how many Color Tiles they think are in each container. List the guesses, each time asking your child to explain why their guesses or estimates make sense.
- ❖ Begin counting the contents of each container aloud. Halfway through each container, ask your child whether they would like to change their estimates and, if so, why. Record your child's new estimates next to the original ones.
- ❖ Finish counting the Color Tiles and ask your child to compare their estimates with the actual number of Color Tiles. Try this activity with Snap Cubes instead of Color Tiles.

Follow Me!

Overview: In this activity, your child uses spatial visualization skills to compose shapes, think strategically, and uses transformations (reflections and rotations) to determine congruence.

Materials: Color Tiles, large book or box

- ❖ Put a large book or box up between you and the child.
- ❖ Make a simple secret design using with some Color Tiles.
- ❖ Give clues to your child so the design can be duplicated.
- ❖ Here are some sample clues:
 - Clue 1: The design makes a letter of the alphabet.
 - Clue 2: It has 3 Color Tiles of 1 color in the top row.
 - Clue 3: The top Color Tiles are not red, green, or blue.
 - Clue 4: It has 2 Color Tiles going down from the middle tile.
 - Clue 5: For those Color Tiles, 1 Color Tile is blue, and 1 is red. Blue is not the bottom Color Tile.
- ❖ When you're done, reveal the design and see if the 2 designs are the same.
- ❖ Take turns making designs and giving clues.



