

**We Belong Together**  
Word Association  
Teaching Basic Concepts  
Concrete Level A - Using Manipulatives



Level 1

Domain:

- Cognitive, Language, Socialization

Goals:

- Child will follow along in a book as it is read.
- Child will listen for specific information as the story is read.
- Child will name objects found in the story.
- Child will match objects related to each other.
- Child will tell how objects are used.
- Child will engage in role playing the story.

Materials:

- *If You Give A Mouse A Cookie* storybook
- broom, dustpan
- pillow, blanket
- glass, straw
- mop, bucket
- crayons, paper

Instruction:

- Present a broom and dustpan and show the picture in the story with the broom and the dust pan. Ask “What is the mouse doing?” Prompt the answer if needed.
- Have a child demonstrate how to use the broom and the dust pan. Ask “What are you doing?” Prompt answer if needed.
- Repeat process with each of the objects listed above.
- Now separate the pairs of objects putting the broom, pillow, glass, mop, and crayons out of sight or behind you. Place the dustpan, blanket, straw, paper, and bucket in front of the children.
- Present one object from those out of sight. (broom)
- Ask the children to pick the object that goes with a broom. (dustpan) Have a child demonstrate how to use the objects and tell what they are doing. Prompt the language for the child if needed.
- Continue the process until all objects have been matched.

Suggestions:

- Place objects in kitchen center for further exploration.
- Add additional familiar objects found in the classroom:  
shoe, sock    lock, key    CD, CD player    baby doll, baby bottle  
cow, barn    train, track    money, wallet    cookie, cookie jar

Story Time Teaching:

- Place the 10 objects in front of the children. Have the children name all of the objects. Tell the children to listen/look for these objects as the story is read. As the children find the objects in the story pause on those pages and have the children pretend to be the mouse and demonstrate how the two objects are used together. As the children demonstrate how to use the objects ask “What are you doing?”

**We Belong Together**  
Word Association  
Abstract Level B – Using Pictures

Domain:

- Cognitive, Language, Fine Motor

Goals:

- Child will name objects found in the story.
- Child will match objects related to each other.
- Child will improve memory skills and the ability to predict what will happen next.
- Child will demonstrate understanding of the word **beside**.
- Child will complete pasting activity.

Materials:

- *If You Give A Mouse A Cookie* storybook
- *We Belong Together* Part One and Two pp. 87-88
- glue
- scissors

Instruction:

- Copy *We Belong Together* Part One and Two for each child. Be sure to make a copy to be used as a model.
- Cut apart answer squares from part two. Discard empty squares.
- Give each child a copy of *We Belong Together* Part One.
- Display *We Belong Together* Part One to use as a model.
- Have children touch each picture and name it as teacher gives these clues:
  - Find something we use to drink. (glass)
  - Find something we sleep on. (pillow)
  - Find something we use to clean the floors. (mop, dust pan)
- Give each child a set of 4 answer squares. Have children name each picture.
- Have the children point to the pillow. Tell the children to look at the 4 answer squares and ask “What do we use with the pillow?”
- Have a child give the answer. (blanket)
- Demonstrate gluing the blanket **beside** the pillow.
- Instruct the children to glue their blanket **beside** the pillow.
- Point to the pillow and the blanket and say “We use a pillow and blanket when we sleep.”
- Continue in this manner until all objects are matched and described.

Suggestions:

- Be certain that children have mastered Level A of this activity found on page 83 before attempting this Level B activity.
- Allow children with advanced cutting skills to cut their own picture squares.
- Repeat the activity reversing the pages. Use Part Two as the active pasting page. Cut and paste picture squares from Part One onto Part Two pages.

Story Time Teaching:

- Pause on several pages as the story is read. On these pages identify an object (glass) and ask “What does the mouse ask for next?” (straw)

# We Belong Together

Part One



# We Belong Together

Part Two

