



Activity Plan

1. Activity name

Eggs in a basket

2. Materials

10 plastic eggs
10 small familiar items
Picture cards (Mayer-Johnson symbols)
One large basket

3. Environmental arrangement

This can be done as a small group activity or individually. If it is being used as a small group game, have more eggs and items.

4. Sequence of steps

Beginning

This activity can be used to increase vocabulary production for students by using familiar objects to elicit two or more word responses to questions. The child will have a basket full of ten plastic eggs. In each egg is one familiar object.

Middle

Teacher asks the child to open the egg. The child shows understanding of the direction by a non-verbal response. When the egg is opened, the adult asks, "What did you find?" The child may respond with the name of the object. Asking the child questions to expand answers to two or more words may be necessary.

End

When the child has opened all of the eggs and named the objects (along with other descriptors such as size, color, shape), he or she should be asked to put them back in the eggs according to a description given. For example, the child puts the red wagon back in the egg. After he puts it back in, ask, "What did you put in the egg?"

An Activity-Based Approach to Early Intervention, Third Edition, by Kristie Pretti-Frontczak and Diane Bricker © 2004 Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved.

Developed by Rachel McClowry, Kent State University.
Available at <http://textbooks.brookespublishing.com/pretti-frontczak>.

5. Embedded learning opportunities

Learns/practices fine motor skills
Holds half of egg with one hand while other hand pulls egg apart
Holds half of egg in each hand
Reassembles egg at end of activity

Learns/practices cognitive skills
Demonstrates size concepts through object description
Demonstrates shape concepts through object description
Demonstrates color concepts through object description
Demonstrates qualitative concepts through object description (hot, hard, slow, dirty, sweet)
Demonstrates quantitative concepts through object description (all, any, full, each)

Learns/practices social skills
Responds to request to begin/finish activity
Takes turns with others
Maintains cooperative participation with others
Remains with group during activity

6. Planned variations

The picture symbol cards can be used to elicit nonverbal responses when the child is not responding verbally. The child can hold up the cards that match the familiar items when he or she is asked, "What did you find in the egg?" These responses may include the object colored in the picture so the two-word response would still be modeled.

7. Vocabulary

Sizes (large, tall, small, wide)
Shapes (circle, square, rectangle)
Colors (red, blue, green, yellow)
Objects (basket, egg, picture, object names)
Actions (open, pull apart, replace)

8. Peer interaction opportunities

The children can be divided into small groups.
Peers ask what was found and assist those who may struggle with vocabulary.

9. Caregiver involvement

Eggs in a basket could be taken home and played with the child's family.
Caregiver can suggest items of interest for his or her child to be included in the activity.
Caregiver can send an egg with a picture and matching object.
Caregiver could observe the activity and collect data.
Caregiver could evaluate the activity based on direct observation or a child's comments.