

JumpStart Preschool

SUBJECT

sorting, sizes, patterns, vocabulary,
spatial awareness

GROUPING

Individuals, whole class, student pairs

PET PARADE

SUPPLIES

copies of the Pet Parade Activity Sheet
(1 per student)

8 to 10 egg cartons

rice (or sand)

scissors

drinking straws (3-inch sections)

tape

Optional: several large trays or box lids

ACTIVITY

1. In preparation, cut the egg cartons in half lengthwise to make rows of six egg cups each. Fill the cartons with rice or sand and place them on a table. To control spillage, you may want to set the cartons in large trays or box lids.
2. Distribute the activity sheets. Instruct students to cut the animals apart on the dashed lines and tape a straw handle to the back of each.
3. Help students build vocabulary and spatial awareness by asking them, for example, to "hold a cat behind a turtle." Other directional words are listed below:

above	to the right of	beside	in back of
below	to the left of	in front of	between
4. Gather students around the table with the halved egg cartons. Then ask volunteers to solve various types of sorting and patterning problems. For example:
Sorting: Place small dogs in the first three egg cups. Have the student volunteer complete the "pet parade" by sorting out three more small dogs and placing them in the remaining egg cups.
Patterning: Begin a "parade" with cat, turtle, cat, turtle. The volunteer should add animals to continue the pattern.
Missing animal: Following a pattern, fill all of the egg cups except one. For example: cat, dog, turtle, cat, ___, turtle. The volunteer should add the missing animal (dog).
5. Continue by having volunteers solve similar problems until the students understand the concepts. Then let them work in pairs and create problems for their partner to solve.

