

Property Sort

What is the challenge? Group objects based on different properties such as color, weight or texture.

Suggested Objects:

- A straw
- A CD
- A cotton ball
- A sponge
- A rubber band
- A crayon
- A marble
- A plastic toy
- A paperclip
- A ball
- Buttons
- Any other household items you think would work.

What to do:

- Gather all of the materials.
- Get familiar with the materials by holding them in your hand and using your sense of touch.
- First, sort them by color.
- Then, sort the objects based on whether they are hard or soft.
- Next, sort the objects into groups of light and heavy.
- Now, group the materials based on different properties.
 - Think descriptors like: Hard, soft, round, rough, smooth or bumpy.



Notes for adults:

- You can add to, leave out or substitute item from this list. Any objects that can be easily sorted by property will work for this activity.



STEM connection:

- A property is a way to describe objects. This includes color, weight, size, texture and more. Objects can be hard or soft, big or small, heavy or light. They can be one color or have a pattern.
- Sorting is putting objects into groups based on similar properties. There are many different ways to sort the objects around us.

Take it further:

- Continue to sort the objects into different groups based on other properties.
- To learn more information about properties, go to:
 - <https://youtu.be/CZWLV8HXlpM>
 - Or search Exploration Place's YouTube for "Sorting and measuring."

