



Give the classic game of Memory a makeover by encouraging your students to create their own version. All you need is a set of index cards and a unit of study to focus on. Students will love digging up facts to challenge and impress their friends.

Focus Skills: Research, Inference, Memory, Compare/Contrast

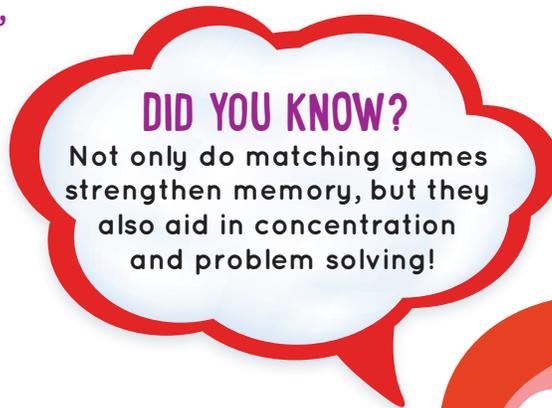
Grades: K-5

STEP 1. Pick a science unit that has lots of research possibilities—(for example: animals of North America). You could even challenge each small group to focus on a different area, such as birds, small mammals, large mammals, reptiles, or fish.

STEP 2. Have students research the topic and come up with fun facts and interesting tidbits about your chosen unit. Be sure to have them use reputable sources for their research. Encourage students to find facts that are good for comparing and contrasting. For instance, you could find tracks for each animal to compare and contrast.

STEP 3. Give students index cards to make their own science memory game. Challenge them to create different kinds of matches. For example, they can compare/contrast photos (a mother bear matched to a baby bear). Or they can write a question on one index card about a specific animal, and have the answer for it written on a second card.

STEP 4. Next, invite small groups to test students' games. Just mix up all the pieces and start matching! This will allow children to test out the functionality of their games. Plus, it gives them a chance to educate other students on their topic.



DID YOU KNOW?

Not only do matching games strengthen memory, but they also aid in concentration and problem solving!



TOY TIME TIP! Look for board games that encourage memory and matching skills. This will help your students get a feel for how they work before you start this activity. Then they'll feel confident in creating their own.