

Back to School Color Activities

Learning to identify and name colors is an essential early skill that helps preschoolers make sense of the world around them. Color recognition supports cognitive development, language growth, and visual discrimination, which are foundational for reading and math readiness.

Learning Objectives:

1. **Logical Thinking** – students will sort objects by property.
2. **Visual Discrimination** – students will develop the ability to recognize, compare, and match colors from color mats and cards.

Preparation:

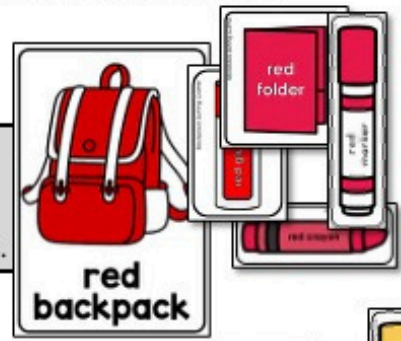
- Print pages on standard paper or cardstock. Laminate for durability.
- Cut along the lines to separate the cards, mats, and puzzle pieces.

How to Use:

- **Backpack Sorting Game** – Set out the appropriate number of colored backpack mats for the students' abilities. Set out coordinating colored school supply cards shuffled in a pile. Students choose a card and place it on the matching-colored mat.
- **Color Puzzles** – Place the puzzle pieces at the center. Students pair the colored backpack to the same-colored supplies.

Other Engaging Uses and Ideas:

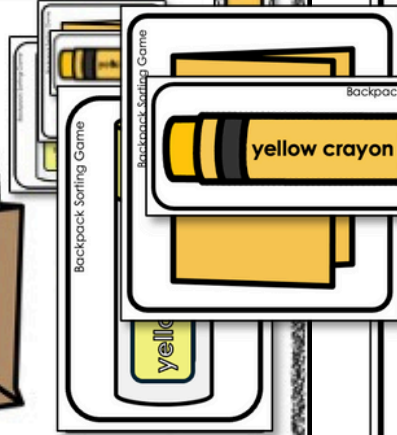
- **Manipulatives Sort** – Instead of sorting cards, students sort small items such as **mini erasers, pom-poms, or beads** to the sorting mats.
- **Bag sort** – Affix the sorting mats to the sides of brown paper lunch bags and students sort the supplies by color into the lunch bags.
- **What's Missing Game** – Display 4-6 items on a tray "packed" in a backpack. Tell what each item is, then ask students to close their eyes while one item is removed. Students guess which item is missing.



red backpack



blue backpack



yellow backpack

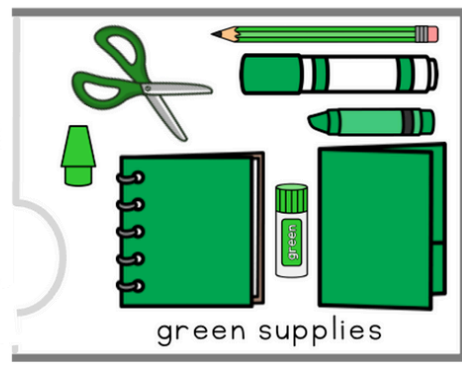


Storage Tips:

Keep the cards in a small basket or on a tray for easy access. Store in a zippered bag when not in use.



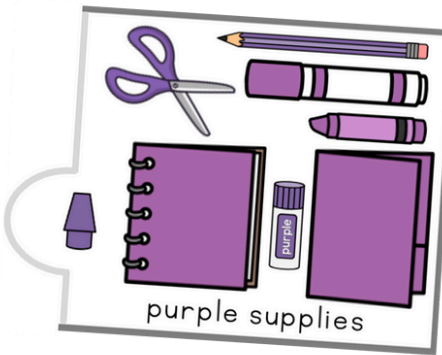
green backpack



green supplies



purple backpack



purple supplies

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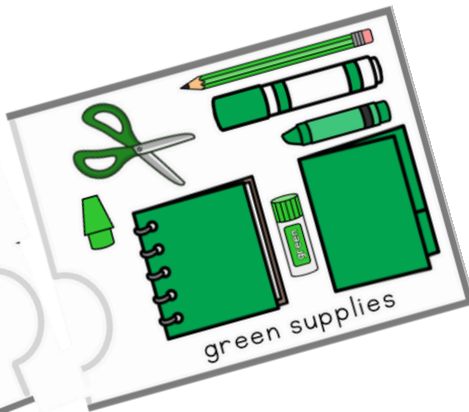
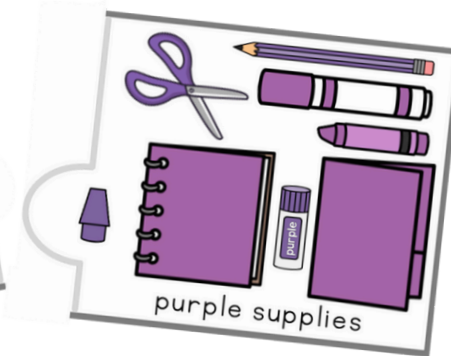
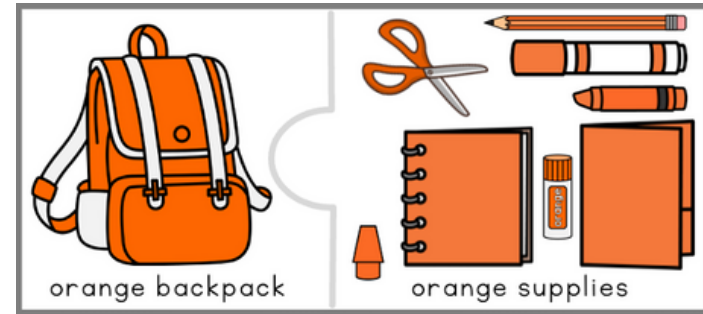


EVERYTHING IS
PLANNED FOR YOU

Learning Objectives:

➤ **Color recognition** - students practice color recognition by matching colorful school supplies to their coordinating colored backpack.

➤ **Fine motor development** - students build fine motor skills as they assemble the puzzle halves.



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“Lots of ideas to use for ‘All About Me’ learning and getting to know families.”



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Meet Jamie

Jamie is the founder and C.E.O. of Play to Learn Preschool. She holds a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a master's degree in Reading Education. Jamie teaches in her private preschool classroom and works to create meaningful, play-based learning experiences for her students and to share helpful ideas with preschool teachers everywhere.



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