Play a Matching Game: Color Names

This fun activity is a great way to get your child used to seeing and recognizing color names. She'll be given a number of different craft sticks. Half will have color names written on them, and the other half will have designs made with those colors. She'll need to pair up the right color name with the right design.

What You Need:

- 14 craft sticks
- Markers in 7 colors (including black)

What You Do:

1. Choose a simple design for the design sticks — perhaps a looped line, linked squares, etc. — and make it in a repeating pattern on half the sticks, each in a different color. Place the remaining sticks horizontally, and print the color names in bold, black letters.
2. Have your child lay the sticks face up. Encourage her to pair the color names with their appropriately colored designs.
3. When she's matched them all up, have her show you her matches. Have her read each color name and show you the color she chose. Reading the names while she looks at the colors will help hammer them into her memory.

If your child is just starting the process of recognizing color names, you may want to provide a chart for her to use as reference. Just write out the color names and draw a box with the matching color beside it. Using a reference tool will help increase her confidence as she's doing the activity, and she'll be able to learn to recognize the names even faster.

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