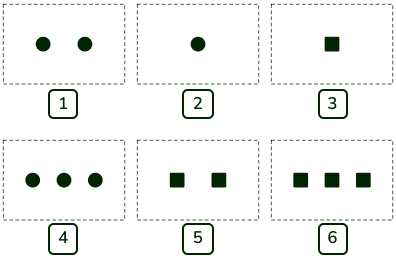
Sorting and data activities: ask and sort

One child at a time. Read the steps, watch without helping, and note what the child does. Real objects are best; each card has a picture to use when there are none.

Activity 1 Sort the cards a new way

1. Cut out the cards on this card.
2. Put them in groups by shape: the squares and the circles.
3. Ask: “How did I sort them?”
4. Mix the cards up. Say: “Now sort them a different way. How did you sort them?”
5. Do not help or show a way.

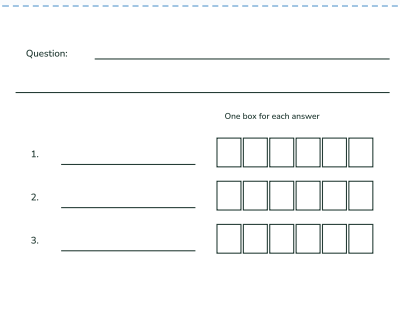


Look for: Says how the cards were sorted first (by shape). Then sorts them again by how many shapes are on the card: the cards with 1 shape, the cards with 2 shapes and the cards with 3 shapes, with every card in the right group, and says the new rule in any words (“by how many”). Sorting them by shape again, or groups that mix, does not meet the task criteria.

The child's rule: _____

Activity 2 Ask a question and collect answers

1. Arrange for six classmates to answer the child's question, one answer each.
2. Help the child write a question with three possible answers, and write the answers on the chart.
3. Watch the child ask each classmate and mark each answer in its row. Do not fill in answers.
4. Then have the child show the answers as a graph with cubes.



Look for: A question classmates can answer, three answers to choose from, and six marks, one for each classmate, in the right rows.

Not yet: A question with no answers to choose from, or marks that were not asked for.

The child's question: _____

Sorting and data activities: ask and sort: class record

▯ did it on their own ○ not yet – not seen yet. Write the date beside a mark to see progress over the year.

Child	1 Sort the cards a new way	2 Ask a question and collect answers