

Caps off for maths

A collection of lids or caps is a cheap resource with many uses in early childhood classrooms.

Collect your own, or ask children to bring theirs from home to build the collection more quickly.

Children can; for example:

Sort by colour



or size



Order according to size –

diameter (width)



or height



Make repeating patterns

ab abbcc



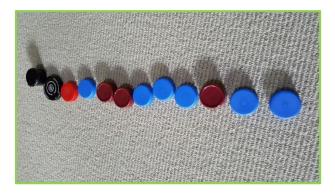


and growing patterns



Count

by ones



or fives



or twos



Learn to subitise (recognise quantities by sight, without the need to count)



That's five! I didn't need to count!

Discover conservation





It's still five. It doesn't matter how you move them!



Compare – who has more? or less?



Measure length



or mass



Make pictures



or collage



Make the longest line



or different shapes



or stack them in a tower.



There are many different uses for caps and lids in an early childhood classroom.

They also make great counters or tokens when playing a game.

What other ways do you use caps and lids in your classroom?