We make connections when we work to figure out what is the same and what is different to categorize. Those who are creative are able to make connections that are unique. This is an important skill for children to use as they grow into adults. Creativity is an asset in the workforce.

Children begin categorizing as soon as they are born:
Who is Mommy and who is not? Who will help me? Who will not? Are all animals with four legs dogs?

You can help your children improve their sorting skills by:
- Sort toys by type (puzzles, stuffed animals, blocks, cars) and put them away.
- Sort crayons by colors (especially the big box with colors like “sea foam” is it blue or green?)
- Invite your child to sort laundry and pair socks
- Sort figurines by characteristic (Does this dinosaur eat meat or plants?)

PROMOTING THE SKILL: MATH AND SCIENCE

MATH GAMES:
- Chutes and Ladders
- High Ho! Cherry O!
- Monopoly
- Zingo! Number Bingo
- Trouble

SCIENCE:
Give children opportunities to think like scientist: observe, hypothesize (guess/predict), and explain whether or not their guess was right.
- What will happen when we mix these two ingredients together?
- What will happen to the plant if we don’t water it for two weeks?
- Which car will go faster on the track? (Hot Wheels / Match Cars) and why?