

MINI-MOTORS®

For Counting
and Sorting Fun

Set of 72 Mini-Vehicles

These brightly colored vehicles are useful early learning aids that help children develop concepts of color matching, sorting, counting, and numbers. Designed to capture a child's interest and imagination, Mini-Motors® vehicles will also lead to hours of creative work and play. Here are some ideas to get you started.

MINI-MOTORS® SORT

Sort the vehicles into their six sets: cars, airplanes, trains, fire engines, school buses, and boats. For young children, start with just a few of each set so the task isn't too big. Color doesn't matter here, just vehicle type.

COLOR SORT

Sort the vehicles into their six colors. For the youngest children, you might start with just the primary colors—red, blue, and yellow. Later, as the child understands more about sorting, add colors so that eventually the entire selection is sorted. Vehicle type doesn't matter here, just color.

COMPARING

Have the child compare two different groups of vehicles. For example, have the child place 4 trucks in one line and 3 airplanes in another. Ask the child which line has more. How can the child tell? He can, of course, count the vehicles in each line, or he can look and compare the lengths of the lines.

MINI-MOTORS® HIDE AND SEEK

Hide some vehicles around the room.

6 SHAPES • 6 COLORS

Have the child find them. Tell the child the number of vehicles you have hidden. Give verbal instructions about the vehicles' locations, so the child is listening as well as looking. For example, "There's a tugboat near the bookshelf," or "Look under the desk."

TRAFFIC JAM

Using all the vehicles, the child lines them up end to end in a long traffic jam. How long is the traffic jam? Let the child pace out the length of the line, or use a ruler or a piece of string to measure.

COUNTING CARDS

Make a set of cards numbered from 1 to 9. Have the child place the correct number of vehicles on each card. For this activity, the color and type of the vehicles doesn't matter.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Make a line of vehicles, one of each type. Have the child study the vehicles for a few moments. While the child's eyes are closed, remove one of the vehicles, leaving the others in place. Ask the child to open his/her eyes and tell you which one is missing. Let the child have a turn setting up the vehicles so you can have a turn.

LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE, LANGUAGE

These vehicles will naturally invite the child's full participation in imaginative play. Encourage this kind of play, and use it as a language enhancement activity. Have the child tell stories with

ACTIVITY GUIDE

the vehicle counters. Have the child describe the sounds the different vehicles make. Talk about where each vehicle travels—how many vehicles do not travel in the air? How many vehicles do not travel on land?

STORY PROBLEMS

Mini-Motors® vehicles are ideal for story J2 problems. For example: four cars were lined up at a stoplight. When the light changed, two cars turned and the others went straight ahead. How many cars went straight ahead?

ESTIMATING

Ask the child, “How many vehicles do you think you can hold in one hand?” Record the answer. Then, see how many vehicles the child can actually hold in one hand. Compare the numbers. Use the words *more* and *fewer*. Repeat this game using two hands.

SENSE OF TOUCH GAME

Put several vehicles into an opaque bag, such as a small paper lunch sack. Have the child reach into the bag and determine

which vehicles are in the bag just by feeling, not by looking. Add more vehicles to the bag as the child becomes familiar with the game.

MINI-MOTORS® PILE UP

How many vehicles can you pile on top of each other? Take turns carefully placing one vehicle on another until they all fall down. How many are there?

COLLECTORS GAME

You will need a number die for this game. Put a pile of vehicles in the center of a playing area. Two or more players take turns rolling the number die and selecting the corresponding number of vehicles from the center. The winner is the player with the most vehicles when all the vehicles have been chosen.



For a dealer near you, call:
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 **WARNING:**
CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts.
Not for children under 3 years.