Activity 3 – Hand and eye games

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Play 'Pick up sticks'

What to do

- Hold the sticks in one hand, upright with one set of ends touching the surface.
- Release them gently by opening your hand. You want to end up with the sticks in a loose pile, touching each other.
- The idea of the game is to take turns picking up one stick at a time, without moving any of the others.
- If you can pick up a stick without disturbing any others, you can keep it. If not, you return it to the pile.

What you need

Collect a large handful of thin, straight-ish sticks (at least 20).

(It is possible to buy packs from toyshops.)



Extension

Keep score by counting sticks won.

Make each stick worth 2 points – how many points do you have now?

Increase the number of sticks in play.

Try playing with your non dominant hand.

Questions to ask

Can you pick up that stick without touching any others?

Which stick would make a good one to start with?

How can you choose which stick is best? What would make the game harder? How many sticks have you got? What is the score? Who is winning?