3 years +

Upside Down Home

Objectives:
- Encourage children’s awareness of surroundings and change in environment
- Foster children’s visual spatial and memory skills
- Promote children’s Interest in quantities and counting
- Support expansion of children’s vocabulary
- Engage child in multi-sensory experience involving physical movement

Materials:
- A room in your house
- 1 to 5 pieces of paper

Directions:
Grown-up explains to the child how the game is played:
A room is chosen for the activity, and the child either waits in a different room or turns around whilst the parent moves 1 to 5 items, depending on level of challenge.
The parent places the pieces of paper on the ground to help the child know how many items were moved.
Child comes back in or turns around when the parents says announces the number of items that have been moved.
Child may need prompting, e.g., Is there anything different about the table? Is something missing from this shelf?
Child collects items moved and places them on the pieces of paper until all items have been found.
Repeat in same room or different rooms as many times as desired.

Examples of Items to Move (try to make them obvious):
- Move a pillow from the coach to the floor
- Move a family photo from one shelf to a different shelf
- Put a dining room chair on the other side of the room
- Put a plant on a bed
- Put a blanket on the tv
- Move a book from a bookshelf to the coach