

SCIENCEOXFORD



Bright Ideas

Think the Link instructions

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Think The Link instruction sheet

At Science Oxford, we're always keen to get children thinking and talking about science as we know it really helps to develop their skills and understanding.

Our evidence-based [Thinking, Talking, Doing Science](#) programme developed with Oxford Brookes University encourages teachers to have a dedicated discussion slot in every science lesson – we call it the **Bright Ideas Time**, and we've developed a range of simple prompts to get the discussion started. They're a great resource for children and families to use at home too!



Bright Ideas activities include:

- odd one out
- The Big Question
- Positive, Minus, Interesting
- Think the Link
- Practical Prompts for Thinking

Opportunity to think...

Giving children opportunities to think and to share their ideas in science really helps to support their learning and develop their interests. You will get an insight into what they already know, or think they know, what they are able to notice or imagine, and how they are able to link things together. It will lead to more great questions and can provide a springboard for further research which they could undertake independently or do with you, depending on their age and ability.

Think The Link

Think the Link is all about challenging children to think about similarities in a set of different items, and to arrange them according to properties they have in common. There are likely to be many ways of arranging the items, and there are no wrong answers, as long as the link between items in each row and each column can be explained.

You might think about appearance, whether the items are or were living, what they feel like, smell like, what they are used for, what they are made from, what the first letter of their name is, or any other feature you can think of!

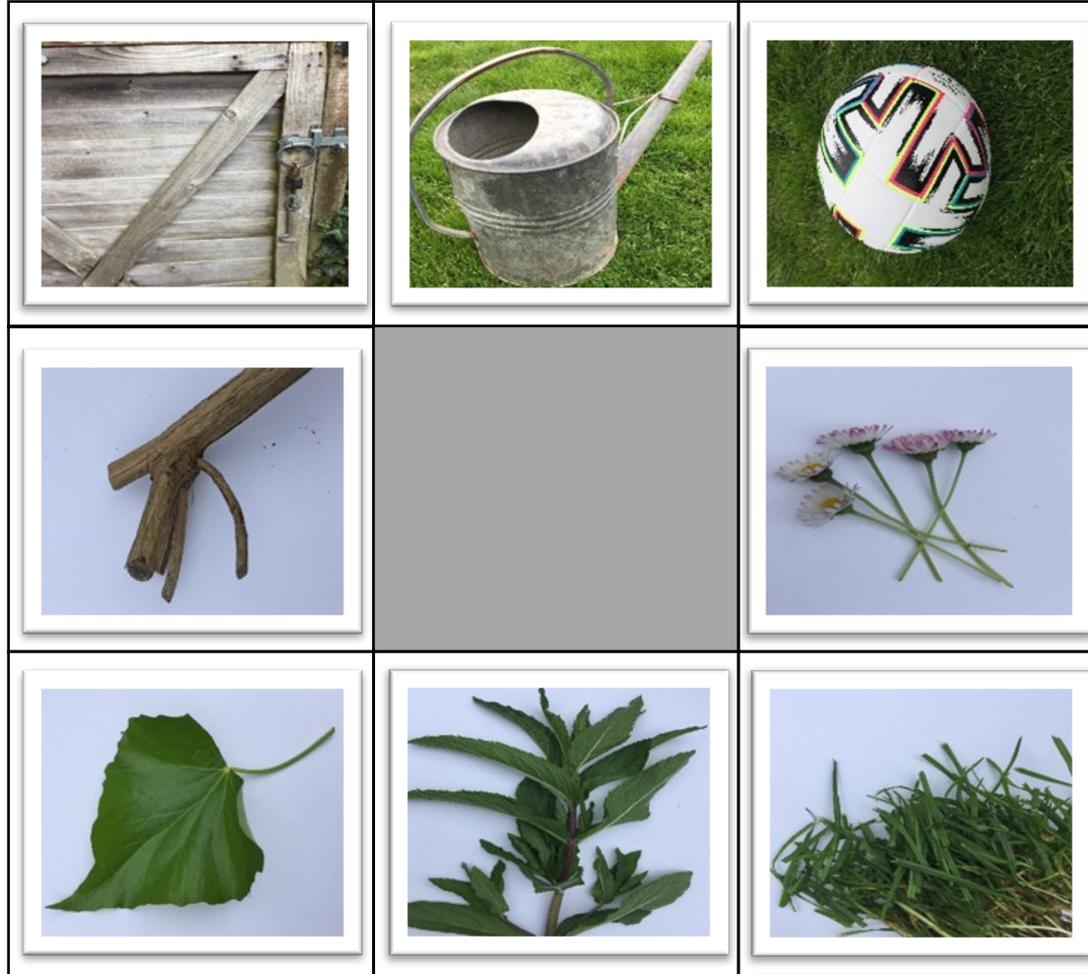
Take turns with a partner to try the activity, and challenge your partner to guess what your links are. You can make the activity easier by starting with more than 8 items and choosing which ones to leave out.

For an extra challenge, can you think of something which would go in the middle square and link to both its row and its column?



For example...

These 3 are made by humans



These 3 all
come from a
tree

You could find these 3 on a
football pitch

These 3 are all green leaves

Make your own Think The Link...

Can you find your own objects or pictures for Think the Link?

For example, try the activity using 8 different:

- Animals
- Cooking ingredients from your kitchen cupboard
- Toys or games
- Numbers or words
- Materials from around the house
- Members of your family!



Share your thoughts with us...

Tell us what you came up with on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram and tag:

@scienceoxford #scienceoxfordchallenge #scienceathome

or email competition@scienceoxford.com

For more ideas visit www.scienceoxford.com/resources

If you liked doing our Think The Link activity, you might like our other Bright Ideas activities!

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