Who Is Missing?

Do a bedtime check and discover which toy is missing.

Helps Your Child Grow



Memory

Noticing that a familiar toy is missing from its usual place encourages your child to remember where it was and search for what changed.

Steps

- If your child enjoys pretending to be a police officer, turn cleanup into a bedtime patrol. Put on a pretend police hat and check whether every toy has returned to its resting place.
- Leave one familiar toy from the day's play somewhere else.
- When your child notices the gap, follow their discovery: "You're right - the fire truck usually parks here. Where could it be?"
- If they do not notice, offer a clue: "Officer, a red vehicle is missing." Let them think about its color, shape, or where they played with it earlier.
- Search together and return the toy to its place. When every toy is home, the bedtime patrol is complete.
- Repeat the patrol on other nights so your child becomes familiar with where toys belong and begins returning them after play.

Tips

- Choose toys your child knows and plays with often. Familiar objects make it easier to notice who is missing and keep the challenge at the right level.

Observations

- ○ Notices which toy is missing
- ○ Puts all the toys back after playing