

Material Hunt — Sticky-Note Tagging

KIDS HANDS-ON

RUN AT 10:05

25 MIN

The point

A whole room of objects collapses onto four sticky colours: **countless objects, only a few materials.**

Materials

- Sticky notes, 4 colours: blue = wood • yellow = metal • pink = plastic • green = glass
- Printed colour legend (game-components/, COLOR print)
- Whiteboard + marker for the tally columns

Steps

- 1 **Walk the legend:** point at each colour; the group calls its material once, together.
- 2 Each child takes a small pad of **all four colours**.
- 3 **Roam and TAG** — no shouting out; every child works at once. One tag per object; nothing that breathes.
- 4 Teacher seeds sneaky finds: **zipper pulls, belt buckles, cabinet hinges**.
- 5 Two-minute warning, then **tour the room together**; re-test doubtful tags (touch, heft, tap) and let the child move their own.
- 6 Each child brings **one tag of each colour** to the board; stick them in columns under the legend.
- 7 **Count each column aloud**; write the totals for the worksheet bars.

Say: “Look how many THINGS we found — and how few MATERIALS. Almost everything people make is made from just a handful of materials, used again and again.”



Fig. 1 — the room, sorted by material

TEACHER PREP — THE MORNING OF

Hang the colour legend on the whiteboard and rule four tally columns beneath it; split sticky pads into per-kid mini-pads.

What to watch for

- Metal hiding everywhere (hinges, zippers, buckles)
- Mixed-material finds — celebrate: “tag the part you touched”
- Which colour wins the room — and would the kitchen pick a different winner?

EXPECTED RESULT

Dozens of tagged objects, only four columns — the tally itself proves the lesson’s headline. Totals feed the worksheet’s bar chart at 1:25.