## Danny + Friends Matching Game

Play Danny's version of the classic game of Concentration by matching each picture to the word that best describes that picture. Or, make two copies and match picture to picture and/or word to word. We've even included a blank version for you to create your own set of words, pictures, or rhyming words to go along with Danny's pictures.

## To prepare the game:

1. Print on heavy paper or cardstock. Make sure all the card backs are the same for the entire deck.
2. Cut along the solid black lines.
3. Laminate cards with clear contact paper to make longer-lasting cards (optional).
4. Select the number of cards you want to use in your deck, depending on the ages of the players.

## To play the game:

1. The object is to collect the most pairs of cards.
2. Shuffle the cards and lay them picture or word-side down on the table. The cards should be laid out in rows or in a circle, making sure no cards overlap.
3. The youngest player goes first. Play then continues in a clockwise direction.
4. On each turn, the player turns over any two cards, one at a time. If the cards match, the player takes the cards and turns over two more cards. The player's turn continues until the player does not turn over a matching pair of cards. If the cards do not match, those cards are turned face down again and the next player gets a turn.
5. During play, watch carefully and remember where the word and picture cards are located.
6. Play continues until all cards have been picked up. The player with the most cards at the end of the game wins.
7. Shuffle, lay out the cards, and play again.

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## Creating a Memory Card Game Using Danny + Friends Sticker Sets

Memory Cards are a useful tool for early literacy and language development. Working with the cards improves concentration and classification skills in young students. It also helps develop short-term and visual memory. By focusing on the distinctive features of the different pictures, children practice their visual discrimination skills and concentration. The matching exercise strengthens a student's understanding of the relationship between the pictures and the words they represent, which is important for early readers. Students also build vocabulary skills as they choose words to describe how one photograph is different from another.

## Materials:

- Two sets of the same version of Danny + Friends Sticker Set 1 or 2, Each set contains 18 different stickers each.
- Colorful cardstock for backing


## Step 1:

Remove the backing and stick each of the 36 stickers to the cardstock and cut them out. When finished, you'll have two sets of 18 matching cards.

## Step 2:

Shuffle all 36 cards and place them face down in six rows of six cards. For an easier version of the exercise, place six different cards face up and ask the students to look through the remaining cards to find a match for each of the displayed cards.

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