

What's the Missing Card?

1-4 Players Ages 3+ 5-10 min

GOAL

Children identify which number cards are missing from the line.

CARDS TO USE

1-5 *Count and See* Cards
Add more cards as children gain experience.



VOCABULARY

In order
Next to
Hidden
Missing

QUESTIONS

How did you know in which order to put them in?
How can we figure out which one is missing? What clues can you use?

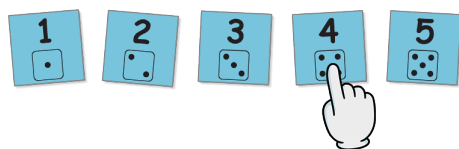
HOW TO PLAY

1. Shuffle the cards.
2. Ask children to put the cards in order from 1-5.



3. Say, "Close your eyes. I'm going to take one card away. See if you know which card is missing!"

4. Once the children close their eyes, remove one card.



5. Ask the children to open their eyes. Ask one player, "What's the missing card?"



If the player correctly identifies the missing card, say, "Yes, it is 4! How do you know it's 4?" Give time for children to answer. Then you can say, "Yes, 4 comes after 3 and before 5." Replace the card and play again with the next player.

If the player cannot correctly identify the missing card, help them count the cards from 1 to find the missing card.

TIPS FOR PLAYING

- If a child is not yet ready to put the cards from 1 to 5 in order, use cards 1 to 3. If a child can easily order the cards 1 to 5, use cards to 8, 9 or 10, or move on to another game that is more challenging.
- Talk to children about their strategy. For example, how are they ordering the cards? Some children may order them based on their written numerals; others may order them by counting the dots.

WHAT CHILDREN ARE LEARNING

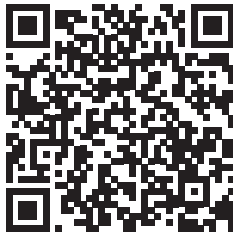
- Some children will count the cards from 1 up to the missing card. Other children will know the missing card right away because they know 4 comes after 3 and before 5. Encourage children to notice the number that comes before and the number that comes after by pointing it out each time you play.
- When children practice ordering number cards and find the

missing card in a number path, they're developing their number sense. Having a strong number sense helps children identify, order, and talk about numbers more easily.

MATH TOPICS

Number: Counting and Cardinality

VIDEO



Watch Game Video

View the QR code in your smartphone's camera app or QR code reader to watch a video that shows how to play What's the Missing Card.