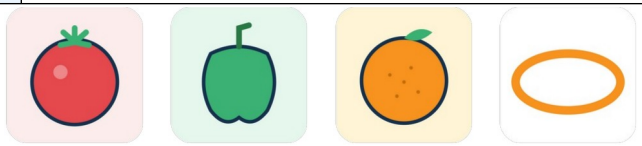
02 · Lesson spec

Sorting is Smart · 40 minutes · fully unplugged

Goal (I can)	**I can sort things by one rule and say my rule.**
Teacher aim	Children sort objects by one feature into 2–3 groups and say their rule.
Focus	Matching and organising data
Key words	sort · group · same · different · rule
Materials	2–3 hoops (or chalk circles). A basket of big objects (fruit pictures, big blocks, large card counters). Sorting picture cards. Red, blue and yellow cards. Cut-out Ayo. Activity Books.
Before class	Read this plan. Check every object is bigger than a toilet-roll opening. Make a basket and a set of sorting cards per group. Lay out the hoops.



1. Think (8 min)

- **Show a mixed basket:** “Ayo’s market basket is mixed up: tomatoes, peppers, bananas and corn.” Ask: “How can he put them in groups?”
- Sort one way together, then ask: “What is our rule?”
- **Extra (not in the Teacher Guide) – hand signs:** sort = move hands left and right · group = circle your arms · same = point to two matching things · different = shake head · rule = hold up one finger like a teacher.

2. Move (10 min)

- Sorting robots. Children carry objects to the hoops by colour.
- Then give out red, blue and yellow cards; each child walks to the matching hoop.
- **Check:** “Is everyone in the red hoop holding red?”

3. Code (12 min)

- Groups sort picture cards into 2–3 groups by one rule (colour, shape, or animal / not animal) and say the rule.
- Then a group sorts a basket of big objects; another group guesses the rule.

4. Book & close (10 min)

- **Activity Book:** children match each thing to its colour basket, then draw a group of things that are all the same colour, or use their groups to make a pattern.
- **Close:** hold up one object and ask: “Which group? Why?”

Activity Book page

- Draw lines to put each thing in its group; draw a group of things that are the same colour. Not marked.

How we check

- **Look for:** Can the child sort objects by one feature and say the rule (“all red”)?

Common mistake

- Children change the rule halfway (colour, then shape). Put one rule card (e.g. a red card) beside each hoop and ask: “Does it match our rule?”

Support and stretch

- **Extra help:** Start with only 2 hoops and 2 colours. Sort the first 2 objects together, saying the rule, then let the child carry on.
- **Stretch (optional, not in badges):** Sort by two features.

No power? No problem

- This lesson needs no power, device or kit. No hoops? Draw chalk circles on the floor.

Before and next

- Before: Week 4 colours and shapes; Week 1 colour patterns. Next: the Week 7 Sorting Robots game and the Week 12 checklist (sorts by one rule).

> **Safety**
> Nothing smaller than a toilet-roll tube opening. Walk to the hoops. Hoops flat on the floor.

Hand signs (where shown) and the Safety box are Lesson Plan extras added by Rhinox. Everything else follows the Teacher Guide and the Activity Book.