Memory game: Flashcard games

There are lots of flashcard games you can play at home with your children and family.

1. Bingo

Give your children a set of flashcards each. Ask them to choose six flashcards and arrange them in a grid. Place a complete set of flashcards into a hat and pull them out one by one. The children turn over their card if they hear it. The first player to turn over all their cards shouts ‘Bingo!’

Children will also love taking turns to be the ‘bingo master’, taking the flashcards from the hat and saying the word.

2. Kim’s game

Place a set of flashcards on a table. Ask your children to close their eyes. Remove a card. Ask them to open their eyes and tell you which card is missing. For even more of a challenge, gradually increase the number of cards that you remove.

3. Snap

Give your children a set of flashcards each. Ask them to shuffle their cards and put them in a pile face down. In turn, the players turn over a card, say what it is and place it in the middle of the table. If a player turns over a card which is the same as the previous one the first player to say ‘Snap!’ wins all the cards. The game ends when one player has all the cards.

4. I spy

Put different flashcards around the room. Say ‘I spy with my little eye something that begins with ... “b”:’ Your children have to look at the cards and tell you one which begins with that letter. Alternatively, you could say ‘... something red’ or ‘... something big’ and so on. They could also race to be the first to collect the card.

5. Story maker

Use flashcards from a selection of topics that your children are familiar with. Lay them out on a table. Select cards one by one and invent a story, incorporating each item. If your children are able to join in, you could take it in turns to add the next part of the story. Alternatively, they could simply choose the next card. Finally, your children could draw some pictures based on the story you created.