

Conditional Cubes

This activity helps your child understand instructions with conditions. Conditional words tell you what you can and can't do in certain situations e.g. **unless, if, otherwise**

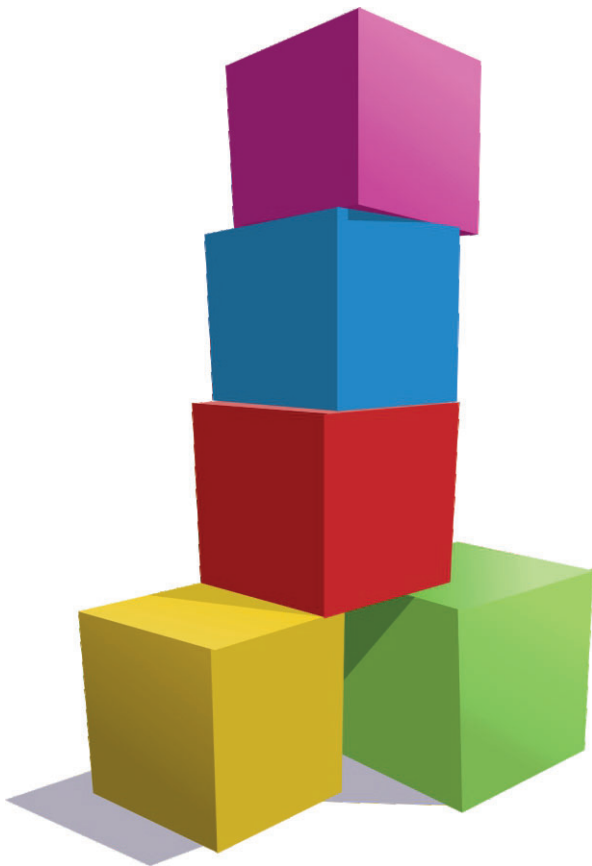
You will need some coloured cubes, or objects of different colours, such as pencils. Give your child instructions to follow using conditional words. You may need to explain what each words means.

Unless: “Pick up a blue cube **unless** there are more than three”. “This means pick up the blue cube only when there are four or more cubes”.

If: “Pick up one green cube **if** there are five red cubes”. “This means pick up a green cube as long as there are five red cubes”.

Otherwise: “Pick up some pink cubes **otherwise** pick up all the yellow cubes”. “This means pick up the yellow cubes instead of the pink ones when there are no pink cubes”.

You may need to work on one condition word at a time, until your child is able to understand the instructions well, before moving on to the next word. Try switching places and asking your child to give you instructions with conditions to practise using the words.



Variations:

To make this game easier, model following the instructions explaining why you have or haven't completed each part, e.g. “I couldn't pick up a blue cube because..”.

To make this game harder, use more than one conditional word in a single instruction, e.g. “**If** there are two green cubes pick them up, **otherwise** pick up two blue cubes”.