

One or lots?

You will need: pictures or photos of objects individually or in bigger groups (e.g. one mouth, a bunch of flowers)

Lay the cards out on the floor or table and explain that you are going to use them to play a game. Invite individual children to choose a card and describe what is on it. You may wish to model the use of number language, for example: *My card shows lots of different-coloured flowers.*

Replace the cards on the floor or table. Explain that each card shows one object or lots of objects. Explore this together, using prompts such as: *This card shows one object – one television. Who can spot another card that shows one object? I wonder how many cards we can find that show lots of objects.*

Turn all of the cards face down. Explain the game to the children: they take turns to choose a number word, one or lots, then turn over a card. If the picture matches their chosen number word then they keep the card. If it doesn't match, they replace it. Model how to play the game by taking the first turn and 'thinking out loud': *I can choose 'one' or 'lots'. My choice is 'one'. (Turn over a card.) If the picture shows one object, I can keep it. Can I keep it? What do you think?*

Taking ideas further: Provide boxes or hoops so that children can sort the cards according to their own criteria. Encourage children to make their own cards to add to the pack. Encourage them to develop their own games to play with the cards.

























