Laundry Conversation Cards
How to use the cards:

Use these cards as a starting point for continued conversations around your home and in community spaces. The front of the card suggests simple vocabulary words to use with infants and toddlers. Vocabulary words can be used while labeling or talking about what’s around you. The back of the card has some open-ended questions to promote more advanced conversation with older preschool aged children.

Tips for conversations with children:

1. **QUESTION**  Start with an open-ended (how, why, what) question that needs more than a one word answer. This helps to get children talking.
2. **REPEAT**  Repeat what the child has said to reinforce their response.
3. **STRETCH**  Build on the child’s response with a longer sentence to build vocabulary.
4. **TALK+**  Continue to talk with the child by going back and starting with another question. You can continue the process of a Question, Repeat, and Stretch creating a conversation.
5. **HAVE FUN**  Conversations are a great way to connect and build vocabulary.
Let’s talk about sorting...

same
different
Let’s talk about sorting...

Describe the laundry you see...

- How many piles do we have?
- How do we decide which items go into different piles?
- How many can we create?

Describe the characteristics of the laundry groups...

- How many different groups can we make?
- How are some the same but different?
Let’s match...

pair, alike, same
Let’s match and identify...

- All the big socks
- All the little socks

What items go together?

- How do you know?
- How many different matches can we make?
- How many are in a pair?
- How many are in a bundle?
Let’s talk about categories...

bedtime, dress-up, school, sports
Let’s create sets...

• What items of clothing can be made into a set?
• How do you know they go together?
• How many different sets can we make?
• Who wears what set of clothing?
• When and where would you wear different types of sets?
Let’s talk shapes...
circles, triangles, rectangles, ovals
Let’s talk about how we can make shapes...

• What happens when you fold a rectangular towel?
• What other shapes can you make?
• How many different shapes can make up one piece of clothing?
Let’s talk about observations...

how many, where, when
Let’s observe...

• What types of tools do we use for laundry?
• How do these tools work?
• What do we notice around, inside, outside?
• What do we wonder?
• What’s above?
• What’s below?
Let’s talk about measurements...
tall, wide, deep, shallow
Let’s talk about measuring...

- How many scoops do we need?
- How much water do we use?
- How many items wide is our washing machine?
- How much can we fit on our clothesline?
- How do you know?
Let’s talk about routines...
first, then, next, after, before
Let’s talk about sequence…

- Tell me what happens first when we put clothes in the wash...
- What happens at the end of wash time?
- When you get dressed, what do you put on first?
- What would you put on second?
- Why?
Let’s talk about placement...

above
below
next to
to
under
behind
Let’s talk about where things go and why...

• Where do you put your clean clothes?
• Where do you put your dirty clothes?
• What items are placed on hangers?
• What items are folded?
• Why? How do you know?
Laundry duties are filled with Everyday Language and Math Learning Opportunities.

Visit our website for additional resources.
Everyday Language & Learning Opportunities

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