

## Family Card Games

Summer is coming and with it some less structured time to enjoy as a family. A great activity for children and adults of all ages is playing cards. Card games can improve memory skills and teach math. They can also help develop ways of strategic thinking. Playing games together as a family helps strengthen family ties, improves language skills and vocabulary, helps build self-confidence, teaches good sportsmanship and can be just plain fun!

CONCENTRATION, GO FISH, CRAZY EIGHTS and OLD MAID all are great for matching and pairing. WAR and SPIT help with counting and ranking card values. CRAZY EIGHTS, HEARTS and SPADES help with strategizing. Playing with a deck of cards teaches numeral recognition to young children; shuffling the deck helps with manual dexterity.

Take advantage of summer and make time for family games. Your children (and you) will be having fun and learning at the same time.