Copy my secret moves

Ages 4–7 with a grown-up · 5–10 minutes after setup · Remember a short action sequence

https://kiddos.ai/explorations/benny-everyday-detectives/copy-my-secret-moves

Wonder together

Which move comes first, next and last?

Materials

A little clear space; A grown-up to play with; no objects needed.

Adult setup — read before trying

Sit or stand comfortably together. Agree on three comfortable movements. The pictured sequence is clap, touch both shoulders, then wave.

Try together

1. Grown-up is the first leader; child watches. Both sit or stand comfortably.

2. Leader slowly claps once, touches both shoulders, and waves. Pause between the movements.

3. Child tries the same sequence. Saying the actions aloud, watching again or copying alongside is welcome.

4. Leader and child repeat together to check the order. There is no score, speed target or required perfect memory.

5. Swap: child makes a short sequence of one to three comfortable moves; adult follows.

Keep the comparison clear

Keep fixed: The pictured first round has three actions: clap, touch both shoulders, then wave.

What changes: The leader shows one action at a time, the follower tries, then both check together. The child chooses the next sequence.

Look for: The pictured sequence is clap, touch both shoulders, then wave. Repeating together lets both players check the order. A different comfortable gesture or pointing to pictures is a valid adaptation.

Explain with care

The pictured sequence is clap, touch both shoulders, then wave. Repeating together lets both players check the order. A different comfortable gesture or pointing to pictures is a valid adaptation.

The three views on page 6 show successive actions, not three characters moving at once. This is shared imitation play, not a memory test. Repeating, copying together or choosing different comfortable gestures all count.

Talk about it

Which move came first?

Answer cue: Clap in the pictured round. Showing, saying or replaying together all count.

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Would another look help?

Answer cue: Offer a repeat without judging memory. The game can be played by copying simultaneously.

What would you like me to copy now?

Answer cue: Accept one to three comfortable child-chosen gestures. The adult follows; there is no single right new sequence.

A parent move: Show one movement at a time. Invite another look whenever wanted, and follow the child's choices when roles swap.

Start simply: Start with one move and copy at the same time. Sit down, make smaller movements, say the move or direct an adult.

Explore further: Let the child change the order of the same three moves. Use at most three until both players want more.

Return to it: Try a new pair of gentle gestures another day and change the leader.

In the classroom

Flexible 15-minute small-group sequence; prepare materials first and shorten or pause as needed.

3 min · Choose comfortable moves

Sit or stand with space between players. Show a clap, shoulder touch and wave; offer smaller gestures or spoken descriptions.

4 min · Watch and try

Show the three moves slowly, one at a time. Invite children to copy, watch again or perform alongside you.

5 min · Check and change leaders

Replay together without a score. In pairs, let each child choose one to three comfortable moves for the other player or adult.

3 min · Name or show the first

Invite a child to show, say or point out which action came first. Another demonstration is always available.

Understanding check

Invite the child to show or name the first move; replay together if helpful.

Answer guidance: The pictured sequence is clap, touch both shoulders, then wave. Repeating together lets both players check the order. A different comfortable gesture or pointing to pictures is a valid adaptation.

Participation choices: Accept pointing, gestures, home-language words or directing an adult. Start with one move and copy at the same time. Sit down, make smaller movements, say the move or direct an adult.

Words to explore

first — What happens at the start.

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sequence — Actions arranged in an order.

leader — The player who chooses and shows the moves for this turn.

Full adult notes and honest limits

Show one movement at a time. Invite another look whenever wanted, and follow the child's choices when roles swap.

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These are authored shared-play examples. Suggested ages and times are starting points, not an assessment or evidence of measured learning outcomes.

Related reading

Meet Benny in Benny the Forest Detective, an interactive Little Clue Tales forest mystery about noticing clues, counting, matching, sequencing and sharing. This household detective game is a new editorial adaptation, not a page from the book. Explore the digital story in Kiddos Books and browse Amazon for the physical titles currently available; no matching paperback is promised.

Activity sources

Kiddos — Copy my secret moves: authored game rules and pictured answer — https://kiddos.ai/explorations/benny-everyday-detectives/copy-my-secret-moves

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