

AUTHOR:
Songju Ma Daemicke

ILLUSTRATOR:
Sian James

When Aunt Kate takes Anton and his sister to the laundromat, the siblings use sorting skills to separate the family laundry into dark, light, and colorful piles.

Ages: 2 to 5 years

ATOS Reading Level: n/a

Lexile: 410L

ISBN: 9781623547363

Copyright: 2026



Sort, Wash, ROAR!

How do you wash a dinosaur?

What is STEAM? Learning through Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics. Through STEAM, children problem solve, innovate, create, and collaborate.

STEAM Topics in This Book: sorting, sequence, problem solving, ordinal numbers

Activities To Do Together:

Sort, Wash, ROAR! is an everyday exploration of sorting. Sorting helps people organize information and objects, problem solve, and understand the relationships between objects.

Before reading the book:

- Ask your child how they would wash a dirty dinosaur. What would they use to get the dinosaur clean?
- Talk about the steps involved in doing laundry or ask your child to tell you about the steps involved in washing the family's laundry.

While reading the book:

- Notice together that the family separates the clothes into dark, light, and colorful piles before they wash them. Talk with your child about the reasons some people sort clothing before and after washing it.

When you have finished reading the book:

- Practice sorting a group of objects together. Start with a single characteristic like shape, color, or size.
- Do the laundry together. Encourage your child to sort washed laundry so it can be put away easily. Make a plan of what you will do first, second, next, and last.
- Gather a collection of objects and sort them by size, shape, color, texture, or function. After you've sorted the objects one way, put them together again and sort them by a different characteristic.
- As you sort, begin with one characteristic. Add more characteristics as your child is ready. What is red and bumpy? White and small?

Conversations During Daily Routines with Toddlers:

1. Outside time - Sort the sounds you hear. Which sounds are made by people, machines, or animals?
2. Shopping time - Sort groceries by how they are stored. Which groceries need to be kept cold? Which groceries do not need to be kept cold?
3. Art time - Sort a group of crayons or markers by color. Make a group that is blue and a group that is not blue.
4. Play time - Group toys by how they move. You might ask your child, “Which of your toys will roll? Which won’t? How can you find out?”

Questions for STEAM Thinking:

1. How did Anton and his sister sort the laundry?
2. What does it mean to sort clothing?
3. Why did the family use three washing machines?
4. How would you wash your family’s laundry?
5. How would you put your family’s laundry away?

Early Math Project Resources:

Visit *Sort, Wash, ROAR!* (countplayexplore.org/book/sort-wash-roar) to find activities and related California Learning Foundations, Mathematics Standards provided by the California Department of Education, and/or Next Generation Science Standards for this book.



Illustrations © 2026 Sian James, used with publisher’s permission.

Vocabulary

STEAM words found in the story: first, second, sort, third

Related STEAM words: attributes, characteristics

Words to build reading comprehension: apron, colorful, counter, dark, darker, laundry, light, machine, pile, separate

Spanish Title: *Clasifica, lava, ¡RUGE! / Sort, Wash, ROAR!* (Bilingual Spanish / English edition)

ISBN: 9781623547370

Copyright: 2026

Related Books: *A Pair of Socks* by Stuart J. Murphy; *The Animals Would Not Sleep!* by Sara Levine; *Three Little Firefighters* by Stuart J. Murphy; *The Button Box* by Margarette S. Reed

For additional STEAMWORKS books, visit the series website or enter steamworksbooks.com.

Click this link to the World Catalog or enter bit.ly/4xjYSdv to find *Sort, Wash, ROAR!* in the public library.