Dear Families:

Today, we had a lot of fun sorting and classifying plastic forks, knives and spoons. The

children learned that sorting means that we organize objects according to a similar size,

shape or other attribute.

After we sorted the utensils, we classified them by naming the categories that they belonged

to. We sorted a bag of utensils into three groups: forks, knives and spoons. Next, we classified

the groups by labeling them with the correct names. Then we began building our relative positioning vocabulary. When we talk about where one object is in relation to another object,

we use **relative positioning vocabulary**. Some of these words or phrases include:

* Above
* Behind
* Below
* Beside
* Between
* Far
* In front of
* Near
* To the left of
* To the right of

You can reinforce these concepts at home by asking your child to help you sort kitchen utensils after they have been washed. Create sections in your drawer (if you do not

already have them) and ask your child to sort and place the forks, spoons and knives

in their separate sections. When your child uses one of the relative positioning vocabulary words listed above, point it out⎯as your child may not realize how much he or she

already knows. Prompt your child to use these words by asking questions such as: “

Where is your book? Where are your pajamas? Where is the chair in relation to the table?” You can strengthen your child’s relative positioning vocabulary through everyday conversational exchanges like these.

Happy sorting and classifying!