Objective
The student will identify and sort words by categories.

Materials
- Picture dictionary
- Letter or legal size envelopes
  Choose categories and label three of the envelopes to use as a model (e.g., shapes, animals, toys).
  Punch holes in one corner of the remaining envelopes.
- Index cards
- Book ring
- Pencil

Activity
Students sort words found in the dictionary into categories.
1. Place picture dictionary and model envelopes at the center. Provide the student with three plain envelopes, index cards, and a book ring.
2. The student reads and copies each of the words from the model envelopes onto each of his three plain envelopes (e.g., shapes, animals, toys).
3. Uses the picture dictionary to find words for each category (e.g., square, cat, ball). Writes the selected words on index cards.
4. Continues until there are at least five cards for each category.
5. Sorts each card into the corresponding category envelope. Puts the envelopes on a book ring.
6. Teacher evaluation

Extensions and Adaptations
- Use index cards in an open sort.
- Draw pictures to use as cues on each card.
- Use magazines and catalogs to find words for categories.
- Share with a partner and add new words to the envelopes.