A. H. CAMPBELL.

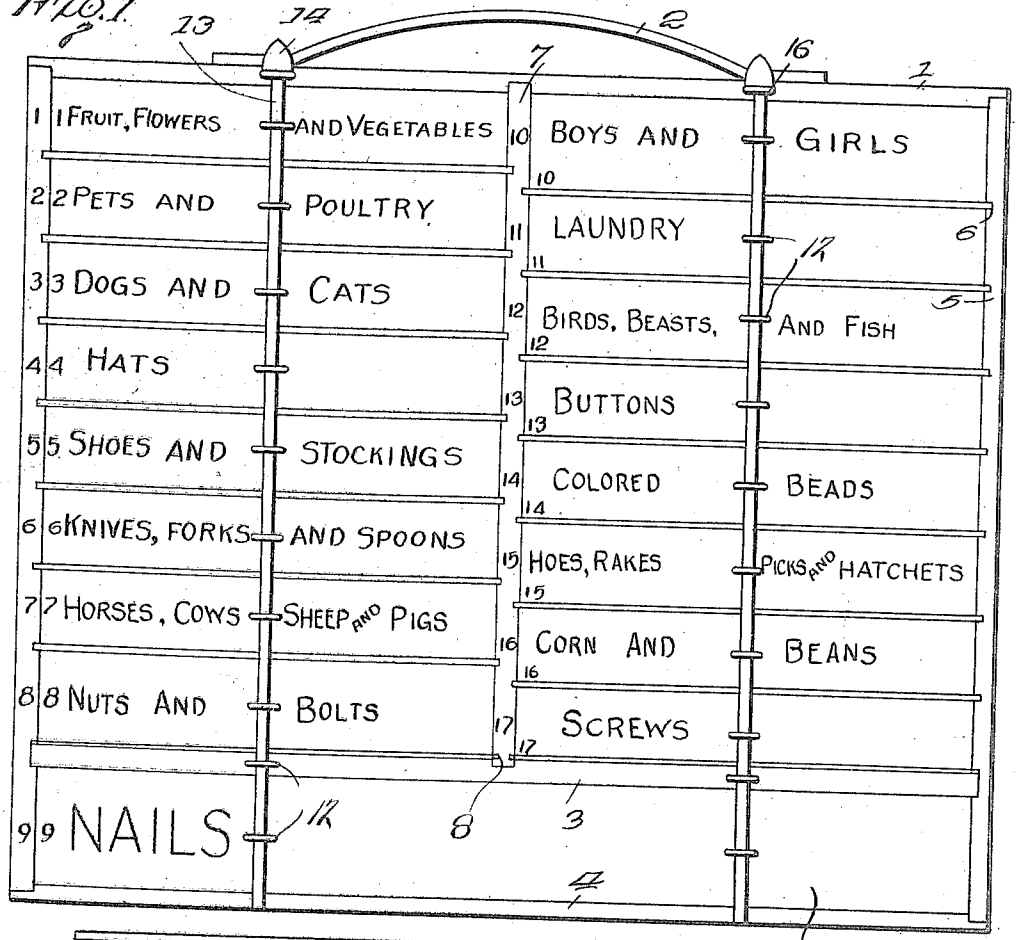
EDUCATIONAL APPLIANCE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 26, 1917.

1,269,384.

Patented June 11, 1918.

Fig. 1.



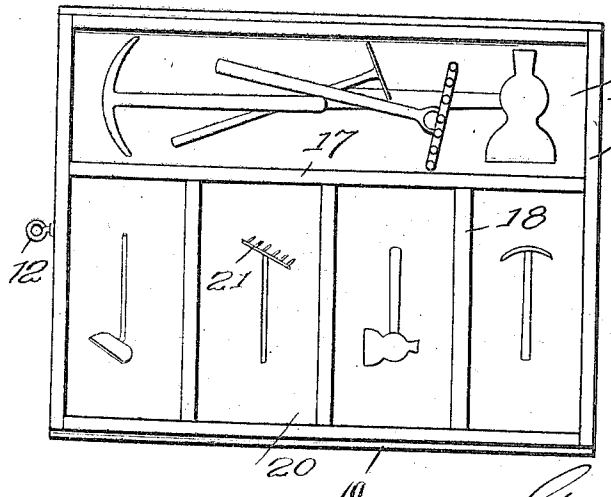




Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## EDUCATIONAL APPLIANCE.

1,269,384. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 11, 1918.

Application filed June 26, 1917. Serial No. 177,010.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ADA H. CAMPBELL, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Educational Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in educational appliances, and the primary object of the invention is to provide an educational device including a sorting cabinet which is adapted to develop keen observation and concentration in very young children, and is practically a self-educator. The device is intended for kindergartens, Sunday schools, and home use, and is very attractive, forming an educational toy, that will be amusing, as well as educational to children.

Another object of the invention is to provide an educational appliance of this character that is formed in the shape of a cabinet, including a plurality of slidable receptacles therein, said receptacles being formed with a plurality of partitions to sub-divide the same into a main compartment, and sub-compartments, wherein the sorting operation is carried out, and the cabinet is provided with means for locking the receptacles therein, when it is desired to transport the device.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is easily and simply constructed, inexpensive to manufacture, and one which will be very efficient in operation.

With these and numerous other objects in view, my invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts which will be herein referred to and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the cabinet; and

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of one of the receptacles.

In describing my invention I shall refer to the several drawings in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

The numeral 1 designates a cabinet, which is formed with an open front, and a handle 2 secured on the upper side thereof so to facilitate the transportation of the same from place to place. The cabinet 1 is provided with a supplemental bottom 3 that extends horizontally and is positioned adjacent the main bottom 4. The inner walls of the sides 5 of the cabinet 1 are provided with transversely extending vertically spaced grooves 6 therein, and intermediate the side walls, is a vertically extending partition 7, that extends between the false bottom 3 and the top of the cabinet. The opposite walls of the partition 7 are provided with transversely extending grooves 8 therein, adapted for alinement with the corresponding grooves on the inner walls of the sides 5 of the said cabinet.

Adapted to be positioned within the cabinet, are substantially rectangular shaped receptacles 9 which are placed therein in two parallel spaced rows, each of the receptacles being provided with projecting ribs 10 on the opposite sides thereof, that are adapted to be positioned in the alining grooves 8 and 6 in the walls of the partitions 7 and side walls of the said cabinet respectively. The coöperation of these ribs and grooves enables the receptacles to be slidably mounted in the cabinet, in superposed rows. A main receptacle 11 is positioned between the false bottom 3 and the main bottom 4, said receptacle extending entirely across beneath the superposed rows in the main portion of the cabinet. The receptacles are provided on their outer sides which when in position are disposed in alinement and flush with the open front of said cabinet, with eyes 12 that are adapted to form handles, said eyes when the receptacles are in position being disposed in alinement, and adapted to receive locking rods 13 that are formed with enlarged heads 14 on their upper ends. The lower receptacle 11 is provided with a pair of eyes disposed in vertical alinement with the rows of eyes on the spaced rows of receptacles. A pair of locking rods are provided, said rods being adapted to be positioned through the eyes, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, when the receptacles are all in position, thereby locking the same, the enlarged head 14 being positioned above the receptacle and resting upon a supplemental eye 16 that projects from the outer face of the upper side of the cabinet. By this locking arrangement, the slidable receptacles may be securely held in the cabinet, when the same is moved from place to place, without any likelihood of them sliding therefrom.

In Fig. 2 of the drawings I have illustrated a plan view of one of the receptacles, the same being substantially rectangular in shape and formed with an open top, and disposed within the receptacle is a longitudinally extending partition 17 disposed parallel with and adjacent one side of said receptacle, and a plurality of transversely extending partitions 18 extending between the opposite side of said receptacle, and the longitudinally extending partition 17. This arrangement of partitions is adapted to form a large compartment 19, and a plurality of smaller compartments 20 within each receptacle. Within the small compartments 20 are placed, by pasting or painting, indicia 21, for a purpose to be hereinafter more fully described.

The sorting operation is as follows. A plurality of articles of common use, for instance garden articles as illustrated in the accompanying drawings are positioned within the large compartment 19, these articles being miniatures of the conventional size articles as is obvious, and the indicia 21 in the smaller compartment 20 correspond to these articles. The object of the sorting operation is to so train the child's power of observation and concentration, that he or she will be able to pick one of the miniature articles from the main compartment, and place the same within the small compartment which has the corresponding indicia in the bottom thereof. It is obvious that this may be used for any conventional articles, as illustrated by the signs that are placed on the outer wall of the receptacle. Thus, the child may be taught to distinguish between fruits, flowers, vegetables, dogs and cats, buttons, corn and beans, or any various combination of articles. Where it is impossible to obtain miniatures of the articles, small models thereof or cuts on pasteboard will suffice. Each of the receptacles are numbered and correspond to the number on the outer face of the cabinet for the purpose of properly placing the same therein.

This type of educational appliance is especially adapted for use in kindergartens for developing observation and concentration in very young children. The device will form a very amusing and attractive educational toy. Owing to the compact structure of the same, the device may be easily transported, and when not in use the various receptacles may be placed within the cabinet and locked therein to prevent their accidental displacement.

From the above description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it is thought that a clear and comprehensive understanding of the construction, operation, and the advantages of my invention may be had, and while I have shown and described the device embodying a specific structure, I desire that it be understood that such changes may be made in said structure as do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim is new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In an educational device, the combination with a cabinet having rows of superposed receptacles slidably mounted therein, each receptacle having partitions to divide the same into a large and a plurality of smaller compartments, eyes on each receptacle adapted to form handles for the same, and locking rods adapted to be positioned through said eyes to lock the receptacles in the cabinet.

2. In an educational device the combination with a cabinet having rows of different size superposed receptacles slidably mounted therein, each receptacle having a longitudinally extending partition therein disposed adjacent one side wall and parallel therewith, a plurality of transverse partitions extending from the longitudinal partition to the opposite wall of the receptacle, eyes on the outer wall of each receptacle adapted to form a handle for the same, and locking rods adapted to be positioned through the eyes when the receptacles are positioned in the cabinet to lock the same therein.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

ADA H. CAMPBELL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."