

1 Key Word

General Tips:

You will need to demonstrate to the child what you want them to do.
Make sure you don't give the child extra clues, for instance don't point
or look at the named object.

Only help the child if they are really stuck!

The child may look towards the picture / object but not reach for it, accept this
as their response and offer them the chosen item.

Always use items that your child knows the name of.

Praise the child and make it fun!

What's it all about?

The child is learning to respond correctly to very simple sentences with one key
word.

For example



1 Key Word

If you have an Apple and a Banana

and say: "Where's the banana"

The child has to respond to the key word 'banana'.

The child does not need to understand all the words to respond.

i.e. you do not need to understand "where's the ..."

in order to carry out the instruction.

Try These Activities...

Inset Jigsaw (With lift out pieces)

Use a jigsaw and say "find the house" or "find the ball".



Posting Game

You will need a selection of objects / pictures / toys such as a car, ball, cup, spoon, doll, etc., and big box with a hole in the top.

- ⇒ Show the child that you post the object in the box.
- ⇒ Ask the child to "find the spoon" and then post it.

⇒ If the child finds this really difficult, only put two objects in front of them to choose from.

Shopping Game

You will need a shopping basket, selection of plastic food or objects to 'buy'.

Give the child the basket and say "get me a banana" or "I need a cake".



Playing with the Dolly

You will need a dolly / teddy / action figure etc and a brush, flannel, food or dish and a spoon.

- ⇒ Demonstrate washing dolly and feeding dolly.
- ⇒ Give the toys to the child and say "wash dolly" or "feed dolly".

New game with dolly:

Demonstrate that dolly can sit down, jump, sleep and fall over.

Say to the child "make dolly sleep" or "make dolly fall down".



Body Parts

Play games to help the child understand the names of body parts, e.g. eyes, nose, mouth, hair, ears, arms legs etc.

Encourage the child to find the parts you have named on themselves or you. This could be at bath time, when getting dressed or when looking in a mirror.

You could use a favourite teddy or doll, e.g. "find teddy's nose" or any toys/pictures the child likes.



Jumping Jacks

Practice these actions with the children:

Jumping, sitting, sleeping, standing, waving.

You will need a drum. Bang the drum to help the children stop and listen.

Then tell them the action they've got to do, such as "sleep" or "jump"

Picture Cards

You will need picture cards / picture books / catalogues of people doing things.

- ⇒ Name the actions for the child and then ask them to select a picture that you have named. You could do this in a posting or fishing game – e.g. show the children pictures of people eating, sleeping, washing and so on.
- ⇒ Then ask the child to give you the picture of somebody "washing"; for example, "Who is washing?"

Washing Line Game

You will need some clothes pegs and some clothes.

- ⇒ Name the clothes for the child and peg them onto the line.
- ⇒ Ask the child to fetch a named item e.g. "find the sock".
- ⇒ When all the clothes have been taken off the line you can then do the same activity by asking the child to "peg the jumper on the line".



Find the picture

You will need a selection of pictures from a catalogue or magazine

- ⇒ Stick pictures around the room.
- ⇒ They can be on any theme, such as animals or food or transport.
- ⇒ Ask the child to run to a picture, e.g. "find the horse" or "find the burger".

Look in my bag

You will need a bag, and 5 objects.

- ⇒ Give the child the bag. Ask them to "pull out the sock".
Make it exciting but don't rush.
- ⇒ Once all of the objects have been pulled out ask the child to tidy them back into the bag e.g. "give me the cup".



Look – What's this?

You will need objects that roll e.g. bottle, orange, car, ball.

Sit with the child and ask them to roll you an object on request e.g. "roll me the ball".

Lotto Boards

You will need a lotto board with a variety of everyday object pictures on it.

Put all the small pictures in the centre of the table. Ask the child to "find the house" and so on.

I'm a Farmer Game

You will need some farm animals and a "field"

Make a field and place the farm animals next to the field.

Ask the child to put the animals in the field one at a time
e.g. "put the duck in the field".

Mrs Honey's Hat

You will need a large brimmed hat with a strip of Velcro around the rim, and a selection of pictures or objects also with Velcro on.

Ask the child to find the pictures you want stuck onto your hat, for example "find the flower".

Action Words

You will need a puppet, picture cards of washing, dancing, sleeping, eating, drinking, hiding.

- ⇒ Introduce the puppet to the children.
- ⇒ Spread out the picture cards and name them. Explain that the puppet can do all these things and they need to match what the puppet is doing to the picture.
- ⇒ The aim is for the child to point to a picture that matches what the puppet is doing.