

3 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 sentences with 3 key words.

For example:

3 Key Word

If you have a big spoon, little spoon big cup, little cup teddy and dolly and ask the child to :

"Give the big cup to dolly",

then the child has to make 3 choices:

1. big or little, 2. spoon or cup, 3. dolly or teddy

The child has to respond to the key words 'big', 'cup' and 'dolly'



Try These Activities...

1. You will need a big and little doll, big and little teddy, sponge or flannel.
2. You can play at washing the big or little teddy or doll. Ask the child to wash different parts of the toys, for example "Wash big dolly's face" or "Wash little teddy's hands"
3. You will need: 2 toys e.g. dolly, teddy, action figure and 2 items of furniture e.g. bed, chair, table. You can pretend to make the dolls do different actions, e.g. sleep, sit, stand, walk, dance etc on the furniture. Ask the child e.g. "Make dolly dance on the chair" or "Make teddy jump on the table"
4. You will need: 2 toys (e.g. dolly, teddy, action figure) and a hairbrush, toothbrush, sponge and shampoo bottle. Ask the child to carry out a simple instruction e.g. "Wash teddy's feet", "Brush dolly's teeth", "Wash dolly's hair" or "Wash teddy's face" and so on.
5. When setting the table let the child help you. Put all the crockery on the table in the right places and then give the child a pile of cutlery. Give the child instructions where they have to understand three words, for example, "Put a spoon in daddy's cup" or "Put a knife on mummy's plate", "Put the spoon under the plate", "Put the knife in the cup" Give help if it is needed, but try to withdraw this gradually.
6. You will need: 2 toys (e.g. dolly, teddy, action figure) and two cups, two plates, a knife, fork and spoon. Give the doll and teddy a plate and cup each and then ask the child to carry out a simple instruction, such as "Put the fork in dolly's cup". OR if you just have a teddy and only one cup, one plate and a knife, fork and spoon, you could ask the child to "Put the knife under the cup" or "Put the fork on the plate"
7. You will need a box and a bag and 2 objects e.g. toy car, brick. Ask the child to put an object in or under one of the containers e.g. "Put the car under the box" or "Put the brick in the bag"

8. You will need 2 toys (e.g. car, doll, ball, brick, teddy) and 2 items of furniture e.g. bed, chair, table. Ask the child to put an object on or under one of the items of furniture e.g. "Put the car under the table" or "Put the ball on the chair."
9. You will need 2 different colour cars and 2 lorries the same colours as the cars 2 boxes to be a garage and a car park. While playing with the cars give the child instructions e.g. "Put the red lorry in the garage" or "Put the yellow car in the car park"
10. You will need a big car and a little car, a big lorry and a little lorry, a box which represents a garage and you may also need a small sponge/cloth. While playing with the child, give instructions such as "Put petrol in the little car" or "Wash the big lorry" and so on.
11. You will need ideas of different actions(e.g. drive, push, wash), 2 different colour cars and 2 lorries the same colours as the cars. Ask the child to carry out a simple instruction such as "Push the yellow lorry", "Wash the red car".
12. You will need 2 toys (e.g. dolly, teddy, action figure), a car and a lorry (or bus or tractor). Help the child to play with these toys and, while doing so, give instructions e.g. "Make teddy drive the car" or "Make dolly push the lorry" or "Make dolly wash the car".
13. You will need 2 toys (e.g. dolly, teddy, action figure), a little cup, plate and spoon and a big cup, plate and spoon. Ask the child to carry out simple instructions such as "Give the big spoon to dolly" or "Give the little cup to teddy"
14. You will need one toy, e.g. teddy, car or a brick. Play a game of Hide and Seek with the child and one other person. Whisper to the child where to put the toy e.g. "Put it under the big chair" or "Put it on the bin in the kitchen"
15. In everyday activities add 3 key word instructions into your routine, for example "Give the banana and biscuit to daddy" or "Put your shoes and coat on the stairs". Make sure you don't give the child extra clues, for instance don't point or look at the named object.

