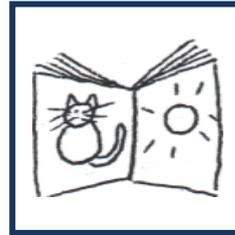
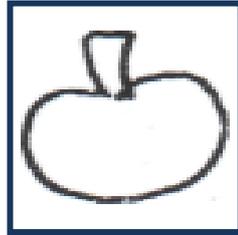


Visual Timetables



What will I need?

- Have a photo, picture or symbol of each activity e.g. going to school, hang coats up, register, sand, trains, painting, circle time, snack, outside play, bath time etc.
- These pictures can be laminated and stuck to a strip card using Velcro or bluetac so they can be easily taken on and off.
- Stick the timetable on the wall in a place where it is easily accessible to the child.

How to use the visual timetable

- At the beginning of the day stick the pictures on with the child, in the order that they are going to happen. Say what each activity is.
- You might use the pictures to help the child make a choice of activity e.g. for the free play session
- After each activity has been completed, go back to the timetable with the child and take the picture off (you could post it in a box) and look at what the next activity is.
- Try to build rewarding activities into the visual timetable e.g. computer/book. If your child asks for one of these activities when it's not time, you can then say something like "writing first then computer", showing them the timetable to reinforce this.
- Prepare your child for a change in routine by placing a card with a red cross on it over the activity on their symbol timetable that will not be happening. Explain that it is "finished". Show him/her a symbol of what will be happening instead and place this symbol on the visual timetable.



Who is a visual timetable useful for?

- All children could probably benefit.
- Children with difficulties understanding spoken language.
- Children who have difficulty following a routine.
- Children who are rigid about routine and find changes difficult.
- Children with English as an additional Language
- Either with the whole class group or with the individual child.
- If you use it with the whole class, you may need to look at it again with the individual child.

Why use a visual timetable?

- It shows the child what's happening or about to happen.
- It helps children to understand sequence / order.
- Illustrates the beginning and end of activities.
- It helps the child to understand what you are saying and to learn relevant vocabulary.
- It helps to develop independence – as the child is less reliant on following other children.