

Literacy - Phonics

This week, we are going to play a game that the children love to play at nursery. It helps to develop their listening and remembering skills and is suitable for all our children in nursery and can be made easier and harder.

To play the game, all you need is a small selection of familiar items from around the house. To begin with, use six items such as a spoon, a teddy, a toy car, a bowl, an apple and a hat (it doesn't have to be these exact items – whatever you have is fine).

Begin by asking the child to bring you two items. If you have one, the children love placing the items into a basket or bag as they collect them. Using the child's name before the instruction cues them in to listening eg: 'Joseph, can you get me a car and a bowl?'. After each turn, return the items to play again.

To make it harder, you can ask the children to get more items eg: 'Joseph, can you get me a bowl, a teddy and a hat?'. Another way to make it harder is to put more items out for the children to choose from. To extend the game further, you can ask the child to find objects from around the house eg: a sock (from the bedroom) or a toothbrush (from the bathroom). Then, the child has to remember what they have been asked for as they move around the house.

