

ACTIVITIES FOR UNDERSTANDING SINGLE WORDS

1. **Everyday Objects**

- Place a number of objects e.g. cup, spoon, brush on the floor/table. Ask your child to give you a named object.
- Place a few familiar objects in a bag. You take one out, saying what it is. Then get your child to take an object from the bag, saying what the object is. If he/she doesn't know then you tell him/her and see if he/she will repeat it.
- During the day talk about familiar objects you use e.g. spoon, cup
- Object function – this is a little harder and should be left until last. Put out a number of familiar objects. Ask your child to give you the object that you have described by function (use) e.g. "give me the one you drink from".

2. **Food**

- During mealtimes talk about the food your child is eating. If possible sometimes give him/her a choice e.g. between two types of drink
- When out shopping talk about the foods that you see

3. **Clothes**

- Name the various clothes a you dress/undress your child.
- Get your child to dress a teddy or doll by asking him/her what to put on next.

4. **Toys**

- Use a picture book (or make one of your own) with a variety of toys in it. Look through the book, naming the pictures. Then ask your child to point to a picture.
- As you play with your child, name the toys that you are playing with. Try to use a variety of toys.
- Place a number of toys on one side of the room and ask your child to go and get a named toy.

5. **Body parts**

- Talk about and name the different parts of your child's body e.g. eyes, hands, feet. Later ask him/her to point to a named part of his/her body. Later ask him/her to point to a named part of your body or doll's body.
- Find a picture of a boy or girl perhaps in a picture book and ask your child to point to different body parts.
- When you are dressing/undressing your child, talk about the different parts of the body as you put the clothes on.

6. Animals

- Point out different animals and name them when you are outside.
- Show your child pictures of animals you have seen and ask him/her to name them.
- Make animals noises and see if your child can tell you what the animal is.
- Use a set of toy animals and ask your child to find each animal that you ask for.