



Understanding

To help your child understand words and concepts you can use pictures or objects while naming things. At first you can also use gestures/pointing to reinforce the words you say and when your child is more confident, you can just use words.

Remember to make sure you get your child's attention before talking to him/her and that you are at your child level so that they can see your face.

Remember to use short and simple sentences.

Activities ideas

UNDERSTANDING SINGLE WORDS:

Objects

- **Pointing to objects/pictures in books** (ask your child to point to words you say while reading a book)
- **Games to identify objects.**
 - Shopping game (pretend you are shopping for items and ask your child to give you a banana or a biscuit)
 - Tidying up (ask your child to get some toys to put away. Start with a small number of things to choose from and then increase the number)

Actions

- **Play games like Simon says.**
- **Sings action songs** (e.g., The wheels on the bus)
- **Point out at what people are doing in books** (see if your child can show you who is jumping, eating, sleeping in books or pictures)

Describing words

- **Sort out animals/ objects by size** (to understand the meaning of 'big/little')
- **Sing action songs that describe words** (e.g., 'Open shut them')
- **Say what you or your child are doing while carrying out the actions.**

In/on/under

Play hide and seek games with toys (Give practical examples by placing toys on a table/chair, under a mat, in a box or in a basket. Then ask your child to find them and say where they are. When your child is familiar with the game, ask them to hide the toys in a given position. Allow lots of repetitions and support understanding by pointing and gesturing)

UNDERSTANDING SENTENCES:

Understanding 2 key words instructions

These are sentences when your child needs to understand at least 2 words.

-simple 2 key words instructions

Shopping game: Give me an apple and a banana.

Simon says: jump and sit down.

Action + object/ Action + people:

kick the ball

roll the hula hoop.

touch teddy's nose

touch Mummy's hair

-2 key words instructions with on, in

Put the spoon on the plate

Put the ball in the box.

Understanding 3 key words instructions

These are more complex instructions. To play activities with 3 key words instructions you need to make sure there is a choice for each of the key words underlined. This is to make sure your child understands and selects the correct option.

e.g if you ask your child "make teddy sit in the chair", you need to make sure your child:

--understand the action sit

--can choose between 2-3 characters (e.g. a teddy, a dolly, a dinosaur)

--can choose between 2-3 objects (a chair, a bed, a box)

Tea party game:



You need:

2 characters (e.g., 'Teddy' and 'dolly')

A plate and a cup for each character (possibly of different size and colour)

A fork and a spoon

2-3 food toys

YOU SAY:

Pretend to have a tea party. Give instructions such as:

“Give the dolly a sausage and a fork.”

“Put the sausage on the big plate.”

Try not to suggest (don't point, don't look at the plate or at the teddy). If your child doesn't understand the instruction, show them. they will learn with examples and repetitions)

You can also give some 'silly instructions':

“Put the sausage on teddy's cup”

Like that you will be sure, your child understands the instruction. He can laugh and notice something it is strange.