



LANGUAGE SKILLS ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of activities that will help develop children's language skills.

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	HOW TO MAKE IT EASIER	HOW TO MAKE IT MORE CHALLENGING
Retelling a story	Read a story to the children. Ask them to retell the story in their own words. If the children miss out key information ask them questions to tease this out of them. You can also ask them to retell a story or event from their life, for example what happened on the last birthday.	You can get pictures from the story to help children when retelling.	Give children key words they must use when retelling the story Ask them to act out parts of the story.
Word Association	This is a game that involves two or more players. The first player starts with a random word of their choice, each player says word that is associated with the word said previous. Caterpillar - butterfly - wings - fly - aeroplane	Give children a longer time to think of a word.	Create a time limit on how long they have to say a word.
Word Map	Introduce the children to a new word. Complete the word map to find out exactly what the word means. There is a word map attached to this document.	Select words that the children will be able to understand. Model the word in your everyday conversations.	Select words that are more challenging. Challenge the children to use the words during the day.

William Murdoch Primary School

ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	HOW TO MAKE IT EASIER	HOW TO MAKE IT MORE CHALLENGING
Adding Commentary	Show children a video of an actions taking place, for example a sporting event. Mute the video and watch it through once. The next time the play the video and ask children to add their own commentary to it. This may be difficult at first so start with shorter clips and demonstrate this yourself.	Use shorter clips of familiar activities.	Give children key vocabulary that they must try and include.
What am I?	Think of a noun. Children will have 20 questions to try and guess what it is. The questions they ask must only be answered using yes and no.	Give the children a starting clue, such as, can be found in this room or you see this in the park.	Limit the number of the questions they can ask to 15, or even fewer if they are doing very well.
Stop the Bus	Children will be given a list of categories. They will then be given a letter. They will need to think of an item for each category beginning with that letter. All players must stop after the first player completes the grid for that letter. For each correct unique answer players score 10 points for each answer correct answer that another player has also chosen they score 5. All player m There is a template attached to this document.	Chose fewer categories. Have a time limit rather than stopping after the first player completes the round.	Increase the number of categories. Ensure words are spelt correctly.



Word Map

Draw a picture of the word

Definition

Synonyms

The word is:

What is the word type?

The word in a sentence

CHALLENGE

Write a question where the word is the answer

Stop the Bus

Boys Name	Girls Name	Food	TV / Films	Places
Aaron	Annabel	Apple	Alvin and the Chipmunks	Argentina