Activities to Help Understanding

- **Simon Says.** Ask your child to point to a body part, e.g. ‘Simon says touch your nose’. You can also play this with actions, e.g. ‘Simon says jump’.

- **Shopping.** Ask your child to find you a food, e.g. ‘can I have a carrot’. This can be played with toy foods, when out shopping in a supermarket, and when unpacking the groceries at home.

- **Action song.** Take it in turns to choose an action and everyone copy and sing about it, e.g. ‘everybody clapping, clapping, clapping, everybody clapping, just like Mummy’.

- **I Spy.** Use this as a guessing game with clues to the word rather than letters. Your child can point to it when they guess. E.g. ‘I spy with my little eye something that is round; it is green; we can eat it; it’s crunchy; it’s a type of fruit, it starts with the ‘aa’ sound’ etc.

**Top Tips**

If your child can follow your instruction easily, add a word (e.g. if they can follow ‘Simon says touch your nose’ change this to ‘Simon says touch your nose and your ears’).

If your child finds the instruction difficult, show them what you mean by doing it yourself.

Praise your child for ‘good listening’ during these games.

Activities to Help Understanding

- **Bake a cake.** Lay out the utensils and ingredients you will need. Let your child help you. Ask them to pass you items or to do things, e.g. ‘can I have the spoon please’, and ‘can you stir the mixture’.

- **Tea party with dolls/teddies.** Use real or toy foods, plates, cups, etc. Pretend the doll/teddy has whispered to you what they would like. Ask your child to give them food/drink, e.g. ‘dolly wants a banana’.

- **Craft collage.** Cut out pictures from magazines. Make a collage together. Ask your child for things as you go, e.g. ‘can I have the glue please?’ and ‘can you find me a dog’.

- **Which room?** Put furniture for a dolls house in a bag. Take it in turns to pull out an item. Name the item for your child and ask which room it goes in – let them put it in the room, e.g. bath = bathroom.

- **Sorting the washing.** Ask your child to find you an item of clothing, e.g. ‘can you find a sock?’

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