Beginning to Retell

Lesson 8 of 14 on Verbal Reasoning

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Types of Language - Blanks Levels of Questioning (Blank, Rose and Berlin 1978)

Types of Question	Examples
Ask the child to sequence pictures in order	Can the child sequence pictures or stories and everyday activities.
Ask the child to tell a story or describe an event	Use language to sequence a story and retell information about it e.g. tell me how to make a sandwich.
Ask the child to summarise the story	Using a single sentence e.g. What happened in the pictures?
Ask the child to make simple predictions	Use language to talk about what will happen next e.g. What will happen next? What is X going to do next?
Ask the child to talk about what a person/character feels	Using clues and information to take on the role of another e.g. how does X feel?
Ask the child to give a definition of a word	Use language to say what a word means e.g. What is a ....?
Ask the child to follow instructions	Following a set of directions e.g. get the cup and bring it to me
Ask the child to follow similarities and negatives	Identifying similarities e.g. how are these the same? (both hot) and understanding negatives e.g. find one that is not red.

Sequencing

Sequencing is an important skill that underpins being able to retell information.

Encourage as much sequencing and retelling of events and activities as possible.

Model the language of sequencing throughout activities.

1- Take pictures of day to day activities to talk back through!

2 - Clips of your favourite movies or TV shows.

- Put these in the right order
- Talk about what happens and how the characters are feeling

3 - Keeping a weekend and holiday diary

- Retell your weekend news
- Make this into a story using a story planner
- Tell this to adults working with you regularly

Making My Dream Sandwich

Describe my sandwich - what is it called?	What do we need?
Step 1 - First	Step 2 - Next
Step 3 - Then	Step 4 - Last

First

Next

Then

Last

Story or weekend news planner

When?	Who?	Where?
What happened? (problems)	How feeling?	What happened? (problem solved)