

Speech and Language Therapy

# **Building Simple Sentences**

## **Lesson 10 of 14 on Using Language**

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# Colourful Semantics

Colourful Semantics is a programme that was developed by a Speech and Language Therapist named Alison Bryan.

It is a colour coded approach to show how a sentence is made up.



# Who?

**Orange** - Nouns and naming words

Can include:

People e.g. man, baby, Grandma

Animals e.g. horse, dog, butterfly

Occupations e.g. clown, hairdresser, doctor

Pronouns e.g. he, she, it, they

(Include added describing words e.g. The small boy, The white horse, The happy girl)

# What doing?

**Yellow** - Verbs (action words)

Can include:

'Stand alone' verbs e.g. run, sit

Verbs associated with objects e.g. wash (car), brush (hair)

Doing words that are used in different tenses (past, present, future)

is/are/was/were - (copula) verb 'to be'  
e.g. The boy is tall



# Encourage sentences!

**Model** joining words together by ‘Who?’ and ‘What doing?’ in the pictures.

**Expand** your child’s language by using their words in a short sentence. E.g. if the child says “car” when moving a toy car, you can turn that into a simple sentence like “The car is driving!”.

**Point** to things and emphasize your ‘Who’ and ‘What doing’ words e.g. ‘Look, caterpillar eating!’

**Build** the language into your everyday situations and playtime by commenting and labeling who is doing what in play

E.g. ‘Mummy drinking’, ‘Billy building’



# Make it visual!

**Make** symbols and sentence strips for 'Who?' and 'What doing?'

You will need:

- Coloured paper/pencils- Orange and yellow
- Scissors
- Paper
- Writing equipment
- 'How to make symbols and sentence strips' sheet

Making a sentence strips for 'Who?' and 'What doing?'

Step 1 - take 1 plain sheet of a4 paper and turn it landscape

Step 2 - draw 3 boxes on the piece of paper so it looks like example below

Step 3 - either colour the two smaller boxes at the bottom in so they look like this, or cut out and stick down a piece of orange and yellow paper



# Nouns you might want to include!

## People

Lady  
Man  
Boy  
Girl  
Mummy  
Daddy  
Grandma  
Grandad  
Sister  
Brother  
Baby  
Children

## Animals

Dog  
Cat  
Horse  
Fish  
Bird  
Butterfly  
Monkey  
Bear  
Pig  
Cow  
Chicken  
Dinosaur

## Occupations

Clown  
Doctor  
Nurse  
Policeman  
Teacher  
Helper  
Fireman  
Taxi driver  
Builder  
Baker  
Butcher



# Verbs you might want to include!

Drink

Eat

Walk

Run

Play

Read

Wash

Brush

Sleep

Paint

Draw

Look

Build

Mix

Throw

Cook

Sing

Dance

Cut

Stick

Lift

Carry

Pour

Write



**Give time! Have you given them enough time to formulate an answer? WAIT 10 seconds!!**



**Give a sentence starter e.g. “The girl is.....”**



**Give a clue e.g. related to the picture or a sound clue “It begins with rrrrrr...”**



**Give a choice e.g. “Is she running or eating?”**



**Model and comment on what you see e.g. “Ah, I think she is eating”**



# Using Language Diary

Date:

We learnt about

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When my adult

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I...

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Insert picture

