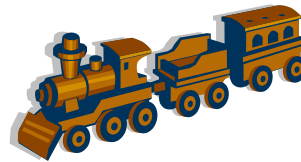


Understanding Language // Aged 18 – 2 years

At this age, you can play games which develop your child's understanding of single words. The first words taught to a child should be things with which he is familiar, i.e. everyday objects and events. To learn the true meaning of a word, a child has to hear that word in a variety of times and places.



Food

- Talk about and name foods at mealtimes.
- When you go shopping with your child, name the different foods in the shop.
- Make pretend foods out of plasticine, e.g. "let's make a sausage".
- Have a toy food shop using plasticine models/old boxes and tins/play food sets, and give the child instructions, e.g. "Please give me the beans", "Pass me the apples please", etc.
- Have a pretend tea party with pretend food, and name the foods, or get the child to pass you a specific item.

Toys

- Name the toys you play with during the day.
- Ask the child to fetch specific toys.
- Make a scrapbook of pictures of toys (from old magazines/catalogues) and name them as you stick them in/look at them.
- Hide toys around the room and play 'hide and seek', e.g. "go and find the train".

