### **Teaching Listening**

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#### **Barnet EYSEND**

This resource has been developed by members of the Barnet EYSEND Advisory Team





## **Teaching Listening Definition**



### **Definition:**

**Listening** is different to simply hearing.

It means interpreting different sounds, while beginning to understand social interactions.





#### **Teaching Listening Targets**

#### Some sample listening targets for children in Early Years

Target: To be able to follow a simple one-step instruction during an adult led small group, activity 3 out of 5 times

Target: To be able to follow stop and go instructions in a game with visual support, twice a week Target: To identify correct verb card on request, from a choice of 3, in a small group session once a week

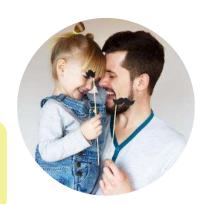
Target: To be able to follow a two-step routine instruction during an adult led small group activity, 2 out of 5 times

Target: To be able to fill in the gap of a familiar rhyme or song when modelled by an adult, 3 out of 5 times Target: To be able to follow simple routine instructions during a larger group activity with minimal adult support, 2 out of 5 times

#### **Teaching Listening Strategies**



Use the 4s: Say my name; stay near me; simple language; same level



Pausing and giving processing time

Modelling language in a non-pressured way i.e not asking child to respond

Repeating things consistently over a period of time / revisiting

Using familiar known activities / resources that follow the child's interests



Clearly labelled /demarcated areas for ease of access

Joining in the child's play and mimicking their language and gestures



Positive praise and reinforcement

### **Teaching Listening Activities & Tips**

## Listening indoor games

- What's in the bag/box – different materials/instr uments that make different sounds.
- Sound lotto.
- Simon says...touch your toes.
- Musical statues/bumps.
- What Sound is That? Listening to everyday sounds and recognizing what they are.
- Clapping/instr uments – copying sounds

## Listening outdoor games

- Action game do a star jump and touch your toes, run to the slide and pat your head.
- Go on a sound scavenger hunt
   exploring objects for sound.
- Red Light,
   Green Light –
   using the
   bikes/scooters
   and traffic
   lights to stop
   and go.
- Traffic Lights Green Go!
  Run around the
  space, Red Stop, Amber Walk on the
  spot, waiting

#### **Listening activities**

- Bucket activity –
  using highly
  motivating objects
  to develop
  attention and
  listening.
- Playdough activity

   model and
   instruct i.e. roll,
   pat, squeeze.
- Dress the teddy/dolly – give instructions
- Story time with story sacks or objects, actions etc.
- Sound walk –
   listening to different sounds indoors and outdoors.
- Language
   enrichment
   programme games
   e.g. posting objects;
   what's under the
   blanket

#### **Listening songs**

- Old Macdonald had a farm.
- Wheels on the bus.
- Heads, shoulders, knees and toes
- Everybody do this...
- If you are happy and you know it...clap you hands.
- Here we go round the Mulberry bush
- Five Little
   Ducks/Five
   Little Speckled
   Frogs.
- All of us are playing together – instrument song.



#### **Tips**

- Use...ready, steady... go!
- Using countdowns i.e. sand timer, countdown strip etc.
- Use objects of reference to support routines, communication etc.
- Now and next boards.
- Visual timetable.
- SSSR Same level, Say name, Stand by, Reduce language.