

# Let's Get Talking

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Welcome to the 'Communication Newsletter' for Whitgreave Primary.  
Your one-stop place for advice on how to support your child(ren) in developing their core communication skills.

## Developing Understanding

Encourage your child to spot words that they're not sure about. Sometimes a child doesn't know a word, but often has heard it before or knows something about it. Make it fun by pretending to be word detectives! Praise your child for asking or checking what a word means. Let them know its ok to say 'I don't understand'.

Explain non-literal expressions or when meaning needs to be worked out in a situation.

- He's feeling under the weather
  - I'm running late
  - Keep your head down

## Watching TV Can Be Ok!

Top tips for watching programmes together :

- Talk about the characters
- Talk about the storyline of the programme and your favourite bits
- Be prepared to answer any questions your children might have
  - Make up your own stories about the characters

## Improving Vocabulary

Exploring and finding out about new words is a good way of supporting your child's talking and learning at home.

Notice new words when you are listening, reading, having conversations and watching a film or TV programme. Talk about the new word and find out what it means. Books are a good source of new words, both fiction and non-fiction. Find out what words are associated with the class topic in school.

### Have fun with words!

- Draw the meaning!
- Act out a word!
- Find an image online.
- Make a word map.
- Choose a word of the week!
- Make a crossword and devise your own clues for school topic words!  
[www.puzzlemaker.com](http://www.puzzlemaker.com)

## Talking Task! 'Feely Bag'

1. Fill a bag with approximately 5 everyday objects/toys e.g. brush, ball, banana, teddy, spoon, book etc. Pull out each of the objects one by one, labeling them as they are taken out of the bag. Allow your child to explore the objects and model what you do with each one for your child. For example, brush hair with the brush.
2. Talk about the object and repeat and model the name of the object for your child as many times as possible. Use as many different words as you can to describe the item.
3. After you have explored all the objects with your child, pass them the bag and ask them to feel for an item. Can they describe the item to you? Can you guess what they're talking about?