

Birthday Presents

This game is to help your child listen carefully and to develop their memory skills. This is an important step in early language skills because children learn to talk through listening and remembering what they have heard.

To play this game you will need some everyday objects from around the house e.g. a cup, book, spoon, doll, brick, orange and something to cover them. The game is similar to 'Kim's' game.

Before you start make sure your child recognises all the objects. Place the towel or cloth on the table or floor and put two objects under it. Try not to let your child see them as you do this. Then take the cloth away and let your child look at the objects. Ask your child to tell you what the 'presents' are. Then cover them again and see if your child can remember what they were.



You may need to help your child by giving clues e.g. you eat it, for the orange, its got wheels, for the car etc. When your child has guessed what the presents were take off the cloth to check if he or she was right.

Remember to let your child be the 'teacher' and to put some things under the cloth for you to try to remember. See if your child can spot your 'mistakes'.

Variations:

To make this game easier use fewer items and just use one at a time.

To make this game harder use three or four items each turn. You could also play 'Kim's Game'.

Put three or four items under the cloth. Let your child look at them and then cover them up. Take one item away without letting your child see what it is. Lift the cloth and see if your child can tell you what is missing.