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Ideas for 3 – 6 year-old children from our speech therapist

Games and social interaction are wonderful ways to develop:

- Listening
- Oral motor function
- Understanding of language
- Communication (gestures / pictures / words)
- Vocabulary expansion
- Pre-reading skills

Daily story time

Make story time part of the daily routine.
Encourage your child to choose the story.



Blowing activities

Children can blow through whistles or straws or make a bubble blower using a sock over a tube and diluted dishwashing liquid.

I spy with my little eye...

... something that starts with... / you can eat / you can play with / you find in the kitchen etc.

Sorting

Cut out pictures from magazines e.g. a few clothing items and a few items of food. Ask your child to sort the pictures and tell you about their similarities and differences.

Musical statues

Ask your child to dance while you play music and stop when you turn the music off. Once they have done that a few times you can change it and when you stop the music give an instruction e.g. "hands on your head" / "sit down".



Feely bag

Put 4 or 5 objects into a bag e.g. pencil, fork, brush. Ask your child to take out the object you describe e.g. something that we write with.

Listening activity

Parents can collect objects like keys, a piece of paper, a ball and a spoon. These items must be hidden and the child should guess from the sound what the parent is doing e.g. tearing a piece of paper.

Recapping the day's activities... story telling

At the end of the day, spend a few minutes with your child discussing what happened e.g. after you ate your yoghurt, who did you play with?