



SLT Top Tips for supporting Receptive Language

Receptive language refers to our ability to understand spoken language. Children with receptive language difficulties can find it hard to:

- Learn new words
- Follow instructions
- Understand questions
- Listen to and follow stories
- Process and remember spoken information

Here are some ideas for strategies that can help:

- Ensure your child is **paying full attention** to you before you give them an instruction or important piece of information.
- Keep your language **simple** and break information and instructions down into **one step at a time**.
- **Use visuals** to support your spoken language. Accompany your language with gestures, objects, pictures or writing.
- Give your child **time to process** and respond to your spoken information.
- **Check** your child's understanding and **repeat or rephrase** information/ instructions if necessary.

- Encourage your child to **ask for clarification or repetition** if they need it.
- Model **phrases** that your child can use to **request clarification** such as 'could you say that again?' and 'what do you mean?'
- Encourage your child to **visualise and repeat information back to themselves to help them remember it.**
- Talk to your SLT if you would like further advice for supporting receptive language skills.