

How to...use colouring to support your

Child's communication

We can support our child's communication using toys we have at school and at home. Children learn best through play and games. Below are some ideas of how to support and encourage your child's receptive and expressive language using colouring.

Barrier games

You can play a game with a divider between you and the child. Give them instructions to see if they understand such as, "can you draw a house" the adult should also draw it behind their barrier then we take away the barrier to see if we have the same drawing and compare our pictures. You can make the instructions easier or harder for your child.

Extended instructions

We can help our children's understanding by giving them extended instructions, we can ask them one- or two-part instructions such as, "can you give me the red pencil" or "can you draw a flower with the red pencil". Giving your children multiple instructions helps their sequencing, memory, understanding, and following of instructions.



Justification

We can help extend our child's vocabulary by asking them questions and to explain what and why they have done things. We can ask our children to colour in a picture e.g., the man's jumper, then we can ask "why did you colour it red?".

Allowing children to colour and draw what they want and asking them questions to do with what they have drawn allows them to apply what they are doing and generalise it to real life.