

Speech and Language Therapy – Vocabulary Activities

- **Sorting by category:** Sort pictures or objects into the correct category, e.g. fruit and vegetables, winter and summer clothes
- **Odd one out:** Put out 3-4 items or pictures where one is from a different category and the rest are from the same category, e.g. pig, horse, hamster, cow. The child identifies the odd one out and describes why using category words, 'farm animals' 'pet'.
- **Category Naming:** Give three or four items belonging to the same category (e.g. carrot, broccoli, onion) and ask the child to identify the category. You can also give the child the category name and encourage them to name 3-4 items in the category or see how many items they can name in one minute.
- **Function:** Describe the function of items, e.g. "A car is something you..... drive", "An apple is something you.... eat". Some things might have multiple functions, e.g. Carrot – peel, cut, cook, eat.
- **Place:** Describe where you might find things, e.g. horse – farm, milk – fridge, sink – bathroom or sort items to where you might find them.
- **Similarities:** Choose two items from within a category and describe what is the same about them, e.g. Spinach and broccoli - "They are both..... vegetables", "You can eat them", "They are green."
- **Differences:** Choose two items from within a category and describe what is different about them, e.g. car and bike – "You drive a car and ride a bike", "Car has 4 wheels and bike has 2".
- **Word associations:** Think of words that are related to other words (in any way). Each person can take a turn to think of a word associated with the previous word. This can be extended by asking children to explain how their word is related to the previous one.
- **Antonyms:** Naming opposites. Choose a word and try to name the opposite of that word.
- **Synonyms:** Naming words that have the same, or almost the same meaning.