



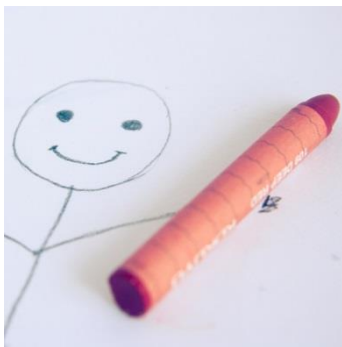
Asking questions

Asking questions helps us to get information for learning and performing daily tasks. We ask questions to interact with and learn from others.

To help children ask questions, you can:

- Model how to ask questions in your own talking, and
- Rephrase children's sentences to form a question.

Play with questions: Ask questions in your play together



Play...with drawing

Draw pictures of family and friends together.

Ask questions about *what* the people in your pictures need.

You: **What** does Grandma need?

Child: A nose.

You: **Does** she wear glasses?



At home...packing lunch

Pack lunch boxes together.

Ask questions about *who* needs food and drink and *where* it goes.

You: **Who** needs grapes?

Who doesn't like carrots?

Where does this sandwich go?



Out and about...outside

Make binoculars out of empty cardboard tubes. Explore outside and talk about what you see.

Rephrase what your child says to make a clearer question.

Child: Dog gone!

You: **Where** has the dog gone?



Asking questions

Read with questions: Visit the library and borrow some books

Who Sank the Boat? by Pamela Allen

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Eric Carle

The Wind Blew by Pat Hutchins

Words for asking questions: Use questions in your day

Children can **ask** easier and then harder **questions** as they learn and grow.

Easier: *What is that? Who is it? What are they doing?*

Harder: *What happened? Where did you go? How are these different?*

Even harder: *What happens next? What should I do? Which one is not...?*

Hardest: *What happens if...? Why? How can we tell?*

Learn about asking questions: Ways to help language grow

When you **model how to ask questions in your own talking**, you are:

- Helping the **questions** make sense to children, and
- Helping them to ask their own **questions**.

When you **rephrase children's sentences** as **questions**, you are:

- Showing that you understand what they have said, and
- Showing children how to ask a **question** next time.

Children do not have to repeat words after you. The more often children hear **questions** in their day, the more likely they will understand **questions** and use them in their own talking.

Speech pathology key terms: responding to questions, modelling, binary choice.