

## Developing two key-word understanding through

### 'Playing with Plasters'

created by Sarah McLeod

As part of the EY SENCO meeting, we explored using play to support language development. Once single word understanding is concrete, it may be possible to develop two-word understanding through 'play' with plasters.

**Target:** Sarah will follow instructions containing (2ICW) two information carrying words, when key Person says, "Put plaster on the (horse's tail) ....." 4/5 times in structured activities

Gain full attention before giving instructions

Use words/toys that already familiar

Complete language activities 'little and often'

Start by using real objects, then move on to photographs, then to pictures

Gather together useful toys, games that will be motivating and engaging

Make the activities fun and use them in the daily routine

Demonstrate each activity first

Allow time to complete and consolidate before moving on to the next level

Take turns throughout the activities, provide the opportunity for everyone involved to give the instructions and practise their expressive language skills

Using a variety of soft toys (for example; bear/cat/dog) and some 'plasters' – set up Vets/doctors /hospital – explain that the toys have hurt themselves and they need plasters put on the parts that are hurt ...

For example: On the bear's hand... On the cat's leg ... On the dog's nose

When ready, this could be extended to three-key-word level – by making two of each soft toy available; For example: a big bear and small bear, a white and a black cat, a spotty and a brown dog

On the big bear's leg ... On the white cat's tummy ... on the spotty dog's paw

When ready, this could be extended to four-key-word level – by making even more variations of each object available: On the big brown bear's leg

