



LISTENING AND ATTENTION ACTIVITIES – FOR Parents

1. Read a story book and they have to listen out for a main character's name or a sound, when they hear this they could stand up/thumbs up/wave a flag.
2. Play a beat using rhythm sticks or a drum, ask them to copy the beat.
3. Hide some instruments behind a barrier (e.g. A box or board). Play one of the instruments. Remove the box/board and the children must say which one it was. This works well for everyday items, not just instruments i.e. crisp packet, keys, foil, pen, scissors etc.
4. Using a small instrument (this can be homemade), your child must wait for 'go' before they can play the instrument. Say 'Ready, Steady.... Go', let them play for a few seconds then say 'stop'. Repeat this a few times.
5. Play instruments loudly and quietly and the children must follow suit.
7. Put an object that makes a noise in a material bag, let the child shake or touch the bag and listen to the noise. What is inside?
8. Sing this song to the tune of 'Bobby Shaftoe': Clap your hands and wriggle your fingers x 3 Now we've made a pattern! (Repeat with different actions e.g. Touch your nose and wave your arms/stamp your feet and rub your tummy)
9. Kim's game- Playing Kim's game is a good way of developing your child's memory skills and concentration – both skills useful for all learning.

Put 5-10 things from around the house on a tray - it could be things like a pencil, an orange, some cotton wool, a toy etc. Ask your child to look carefully at them for about 15-30 seconds. Then take the tray away and ask them to call out what they remember OR another way of playing the game is to cover the things, take one thing away and ask the child to spot what is missing. You can put more things on the tray as they get better.

10. Play musical statues!
11. Build a tower using blocks, say ready steady go before the child knocks the tower down.
12. Play 'what's the time Mr. Wolf?', they don't need to know how to tell the time, just prompt by saying 'what number?'

Rhyme Activities

1. Sing a familiar nursery rhyme through once then sing it again but pause and miss out a rhyming word for the children to fill in i.e. 'Twinkle Twinkle Little.....'
2. Read a rhyming book and stress the rhyming words. If the children know the story well then leave a space for the children to fill in the rhyming word i.e. 'Run run as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread
3. Play different rhythms with instruments and ask the children to copy i.e. fast, slow et