

Other things to try: 4b

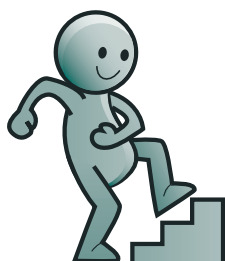
Understanding three key words (ii)

What to do

- Gather together the following toys/items:
 - ★ Toy/real fruit
 - ★ Big and little bag
 - ★ Big and little box
- Play a game putting the shopping away into bags and boxes.
- Encourage the child to listen and follow the instructions you give using three key words:
 - ★ 'Put the *apple* in the *big box*.'
 - ★ 'Put the *orange* in the *little bag*.'
 - ★ 'Put the *banana* in the *big bag*', etc.

N.B. If you are checking three-word level understanding, remember not to look at, point to or give any visual clues when showing the child what you want him/her to do.

- If a child can't manage the task because it's too hard, repeat the instruction and then gently guide him/her to the right toys/fruit. Give the instruction again as the child copies or is shown what to do.



Step up

- Reduce the number of gestures/signs so the child is relying solely on verbal understanding.
- Increase the number of different kinds of fruit to four, five or six.
- Add another item to put the fruit in (e.g. a big and little cup/bag).

Step down

- Use gestures/signs alongside the key words.
- Adjust the word level: give the child the piece of fruit (e.g. apple) and give the instructions as above. The child will only have to understand two key words at this stage. For example, for the instruction 'Put the apple in the big box', the child will only have to understand the words 'big' and 'box' as there is no choice of fruit. Once the child is successful here, replace the toys but this time with a choice of fruit. Give the same instruction again (e.g. 'Put the apple in the big box').

