

KS2 Home Learning – Turn Taking

These listening game ideas, games and activities are designed to support attention and listening in the classroom. These listening games encourage a child to look at the person who is talking and encourages turn taking in conversations. Some ideas are given on how to alter the difficulty of the games to allow them to be differentiated to the ability of the child.

Talking Stick

The children take it in turns to say something. Turn taking in these games could be supported with the use of a

'talking stick': The children can only say something when they are holding the 'talking stick' (any object could be used as a 'talking stick').

My name is ... and I like ... (could be a given category e.g., fruit or any from any category)

My name is Happy Helen (the group members think of a word with the same sound as their own name)

My favourite animal is ... (could be any category)

My favourite animal is ... because ...

Find out 1 thing about the person sitting next to them and report back to the group. When reporting back to the groups, the children take it in turns to talk. This can be made easier by specifying a topic for things to find out

e.g. favourite foods. It can be made harder by increasing the number of things to find out or by specifying e.g. find out something we can't see.

Roll a Ball

Some children may find that a ball e.g., that makes a noise/lights up when you roll it / has iridescent ribbon inside stimulating and this in turn can support their attention to the game.

This can either be played individually with a child or in a small group. In this game, the group members must look at the person they are rolling the ball to.

- Rolling the ball to each other

- Rolling the ball to each other saying, "I'm rolling the ball to ..."

- When the child receives the ball, the child has to say, "My name is ... and I like ..."

- When the child receives the ball, the child has to name an animal, name a food item, name a mode of transport etc.

- The adult gives the child an instruction e.g. "Roll the ball to ...", "Roll the ball to someone wearing blue:", "Roll the ball to someone with brown hair:"

Similar games can be played with passing a bean bag or passing an object between the group members.



Winking Witch

This is a good game to play to focus on eye contact.

"Be aware that some children may find eye contact difficult, for these children adaptations may need to be made.

Everyone sits in a circle facing each other and a player is chosen to be the 'witch' or 'fairy':

The 'witch' or 'fairy' casts a spell on another child by winking or blinking at them. The child pretends to fall asleep.

The rest of the group try to identify the person winking/blinking.



Pass the Look

For this game eye contact is essential, therefore it may not be appropriate to play with children who find eye contact difficult.

One group member begins by looking into the eyes of the person next to them.

In order to receive 'the look' eye contact is needed.

'The look' is passed around the group.

This can also be played with a pair of silly glasses or a hat - to get the glasses or the hat, eye contact must first be made.

This game can be made harder by passing 'the look' across the group.

