

### **Barrier Game (for older students)**

1. This is a game where you sit on one side of a screen and your child sits on the other side. *The screen can be made easily using a box or cardboard – big enough so that you cannot see their materials and they cannot see yours.*

2. You should both have the same materials on each side of the screen e.g. same coloured crayons, same number of pieces of paper.

#### **Example: Draw a large Easter Egg on 2 sheets of paper.**

3. You should have one sheet and your child has the other.

4. Take it in turns to give instructions e.g. “You start with I am drawing a red circle in the middle of my egg.”

5. You should both complete this instruction.

6. The other person takes a turn e.g. “I am drawing a chick by my egg.”

7. You should both complete the instruction.

If the child says chick by egg then you can use this to model the correct language “Oh you are drawing a yellow chick by your egg, well done”.

8. Carry on taking turns.

9. Take away the screen and see if your Eggs are the same. If they are not the same that is fine, you can discuss why they are not the same.

Depending on the equipment you choose you can play different games:-

1. Using Maps – describing how to get from one point on a map to another.
2. Construction – have a Lego car on one side and the same Lego pieces on the other and the child has to explain to you how to construct the car.
3. Grids e.g. – treasure island with a grid on top and you have to find the hidden treasure squares e.g. is there treasure in A5 or C10 etc.

