

Treasure hunt

While you are out walking today, why not make the most of the opportunities that are all around you and go on a treasure hunt. You can have fun searching for items together, such as sticks, flowers, leaves or stones. Sort your 'treasure', looking at things that are similar and different. Encourage your child to talk about how they have sorted their treasure - this may be by size, colour, shape, object or another way your child has chosen.

Enjoy discovering together and talking about what you have found out; praise your child for having a go. You can have more fun by repeating your child's comments and adding new words in the conversation.



Supporting your child to develop their language

Try to remember to ask less questions and make more comments about what is happening, have a go at saying four comments to one question

1. These two look the same.
2. I can see another leaf.
3. Here are lots of stones.
4. Here's the green pile of objects.
5. Can you find more sticks?

Words to share

Same, different, big, small, tall, short, more, less

Making it work for your family

Keep it simple, at first, start with finding a particular item such as leaves.

As your child becomes confident, look for different objects, sorting them and talking about the size of objects.

Next time you could try ...

talking about the size of sticks balancing or building with large stones to make towers that balance.

This activity can take place at any time whilst out and about. You can continue to use the words in other situations for example around the house or in the garden.

Look all around you, **talk together** about the things you see, **recap together** on what you have enjoyed - children enjoy doing the same activity again and again and again - this really helps them to learn and remember.