

Early Sequencing Skills

The ability to sequence ideas is an important skill which is used in both spoken and written tasks. We use sequencing skills to give news, describe an event and tell stories.

General Advice

- Gain the child's full attention before giving an instruction
- Activities should be completed little and often
- Use the terms first, next, and then, last so that the child becomes familiar with these concepts
- Model the use of first, next, and then, last in practical situations and throughout the daily routine e.g. "you're last in the line" "first tidy up, then stand by the door"
- Make the activities fun
- Remember to give the child a turn to give the instructions
- Once the child is confident at understanding/using the concepts in practical situations move on to using pictures to sequence a story/event



Activities

Everyday activities choose some everyday sequencing activities and encourage the child to carry them out e.g.:

- Making a cup of juice
- Making a sandwich
- Drawing a person
- Play sequences-making a railway track, making pretend meals in the home corner
- Dressing for P.E
- Any activity where a sequence of actions is required



Comment on what the child is doing as they are carrying out the activity. Give the child a turn at talking about what they are doing.

Silly me! Carry out an activity but pretend that you have forgotten how to do it or do silly things e.g. leave the juice bottle on while making a drink, carry out the activity in the wrong order. Give the child an opportunity to tell you how to do the activity/what you did wrong. Model the use of first. next. and then. last.

