

Prepositions (Position Words): In, On and Under

General Advice

- Gain the child's full attention before giving an instruction.
- Activities should be completed little and often.
- Start by using real objects or people, then move onto using pictures or photos
- Gather together objects that will be useful for working on prepositions e.g. small box, bag, toy animals, action figures, pretend food, toy furniture.
- Use objects that are motivating for the child e.g. their favourite toys/interests
- Teach one preposition at a time until you think the child understands each word on its own.
- Use choices to help the child use prepositions initially e.g. "Did I put the car on the bed or under the bed?" The child will then have a model to copy.
- Make the activities fun and use them during the daily routine.
- Remember to give the child a turn to give instructions.



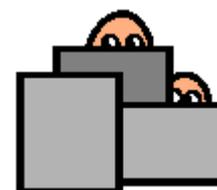
Activities

Target- 'in'

You need a box, a cup, a bag and a bag of small objects or toys. Let the child choose an object from the bag and ask them to put it in one of the containers on the table:

E.g. "put the monkey in the bag"
"Put the ball in the cup"

Model and emphasise the new word 'in' as much as possible.
Use hand over hand support to guide them to put the object 'in' if needed.
Reverse roles so that the child has an opportunity to give the instructions.



Target - 'under'

Gather objects that you can hide things or the child under, e.g. blanket, real/toy furniture (bed, table or chair) cup, plate, toys. Model putting the toys under the various places and describe where they are. Then take turns to hide a toy under something to encourage the child to start using "under"

E.g. 'where is the car?'
'where is mummy/teacher?'



Target 'on' and 'under'

Gather together some toy animals and use a real or toy bed. Let the child choose an animal and ask them to put it on or under the bed:

- E.g. 'Put the cat under the bed'
 'Put the cow on the bed'
 'Put the sheep under the bed'

Target 'on' and 'under'

You need pictures of fish with paperclips attached, a chair, a table and a fishing rod made from a magnet suspended from the end of a pole. Place the fish pictures randomly on and under the table and chair. Take it in turns to catch a fish:

- E.g. 'Fish on chair'
 'Fish under table'

To target 'in', 'on' and 'under'

During outdoor play, in the garden, at the park, in P.E give the child instructions using "in/on/under".

- E.g. 'Stand on the bench'
 'Stand under the climbing frame'

