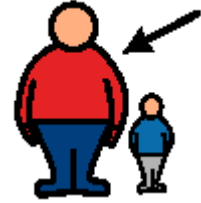


Big and Little

General Advice

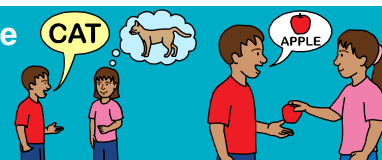
- Ensure that you have the child's **full attention** before giving an instruction.
- **Activities** should be completed **little and often**. 1-2 activities completed a few times a week will be more effective than 6 activities completed in one go.
- Use **real objects** to start with. Pictures of big and little objects (e.g. those below) can be used for additional activities once the child is fully confident at big/little with objects.
- Try to make sure that the **difference in size** between objects is obvious, particularly when you first start to teach this concept.
- Use the words big and little as **forced alternatives** e.g. "Did I roll the ball to big teddy or little teddy?" This provides a good model for the child to copy.
- Change any of the objects suggested to toys you feel are more **motivating** for the child (e.g. action figure instead of teddy) and objects which are available in the classroom (e.g. pencil instead of a spoon).
- Try to make the activities into **fun games**
- Remember to let the child have a turn to give instructions so they can practise using big/little.



The child needs to understand the concepts of big/little on their own before they will be able to follow longer instructions.

Activities

- **Sorting:** collect pairs of big and little objects including a big and little box. Support the child to sort the objects into the correct sized box.
- **Finding big/little toys** once the objects are sorted ask them to pass the objects back you e.g. 'Pass me the big cup', 'Pass me the big teddy'. When you first start working on this concept, ask for all the big objects first and then all the little objects. Once the child can do this easily, make it more difficult by asking for the objects in a random order.
- **Play** model the use of big and little during everyday situations and when playing e.g. "that was a big jump" "are you going on the big slide" "you're big and you're baby sister is little". Take turns to do big and little actions e.g. big/little stretch, big/little jump
- **Drawing** take turns to draw big/little lines, circles, people etc



- **Playing ball** You need a big teddy, a little teddy and a soft ball. Put the teddies in front of the child and ask them to 'Roll the ball to the big teddy' or 'Roll the ball to the little teddy'
- **Pushing cars** You need a big car, a little car and a teddy or action figure eg Buzz Lightyear. Ask the child to 'Push the big car to teddy' or 'Push the little car to teddy'. Take turns and let the child tell you which one to push



- **Playdough** Use Playdough and cutters of different sizes. Cut out a shape that is big or little and ask the child to cut out a shape that is the same size. Talk about the shapes you've made i.e. big star, little square
- **Lotto** You need a set of cards of big and little pictures. Use the pictures to make Lotto boards and corresponding matching picture cards. Play Lotto in the usual way by taking it in turns to choose a picture and seeing whether or not it matches one of the pictures on your board. Comment on what is happening.

