Understanding of questions: Where?

When developing understanding and use of sentences it is important for children to have a clear understanding of the question word ‘where’ and to be able to clearly understand that this relates to places.

A colour-coding approach can be useful when helping to develop understanding of question words. Discuss this with your Speech and Language Therapist.

Ideas to try at home for where questions:

- Use a visual prompt to reinforce the ‘where’ question when you ask it. This could be a sign or a picture or symbol.

- Hide something which makes a sound such as a toy or even your phone and hide it. Ask the question “where is it?” then encourage your child to see ‘where’ it is and talk about where you found it.

- With play furniture and play house or farm figures and farm put the furniture or animals into a small bag. Get your child to pull an object out of the bag and ask them “where does it go?” For example the bed goes in the bedroom, cow in the field, bath in the bathroom. Use the where sign to help your child understand the question.

- Looking at recent family photographs talk about where you were or where you went. ‘Can you remember where we were/went?’ … ‘We went to the zoo’

- As you read familiar books with your child ask them where characters in the story are. For example, in Goldilocks and the Three bears - “where is Goldilocks?” Use the where sign. Look at lift the flap books and ask where things are hiding.

- Ask your child to follow little instructions for you. “Where are your shoes?” “where is Mum’s bag?” “where is your book?” They might enjoy being the ‘teacher’ and asking you some where questions too.

- Hide and seek. Hide objects around the room. Ask your child to see if they can find where they are. ‘Where’s the ball?. Encourage them to tell you where they found the object.’