

Auditory Memory

What is this and why is it so important?

When children learn language, they need to be able to tell the difference between the sounds they hear, i.e. spoken sounds, and everyday sounds.

Auditory means hearing sounds.

Auditory Memory means remembering the important sounds that we hear.

Some children find it hard to remember what has been said to them. They may need help with;

- following multi-step directions
- recalling stories or songs
- remembering people's names
- memorising numbers.

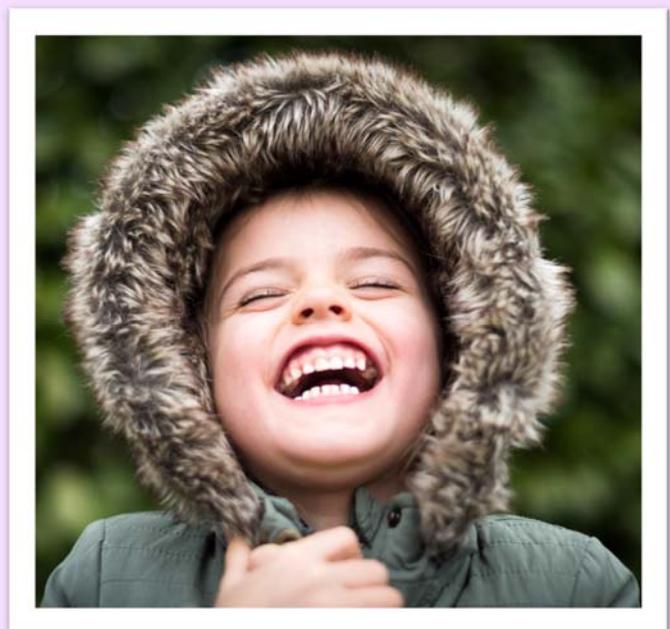
Your child may have been asked to complete tasks at home or in school. If they feel confused, they may have difficulty remembering the instructions. It is helpful to try the following activities with your child and develop their auditory memory.

Dressing-up Game

Collect a selection of clothes to use for this game. Use no more than 9 items . It may be fun to use an adult's clothes.

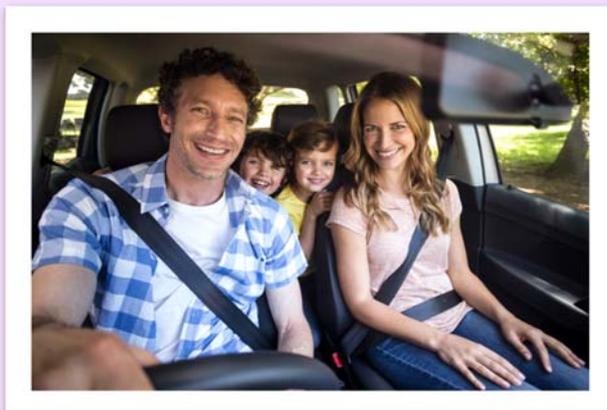
Discuss the clothes with your child and make sure that they know the name of each item.

Remind your child to listen carefully and give them a list of items to put on as quickly as they can, e.g. *'Put on the hat, a sock and the coat.'*



I went to the shop and I bought....

This fun game can be played while in the car, out for a walk or at home. Explain that, in turn, each person repeats what they have heard and adds on a new item to the list. It can be fun to make the list interesting, because then it will be more memorable. It gets harder as the list gets longer. The game ends when someone cannot recall the list correctly, e.g.;



- *'I went to the shop and I bought a carrot'*
- *'I went to the shop and I bought a carrot and a doll'*
- *'I went to the shop and I bought a carrot, a doll and a flower'*
- *'I went to the shop and I bought a carrot, a doll, a flower and a puppy'*
- *'I went to the shop and I bought a carrot, a doll, a flower, a puppy and a*

Percy Parrot

Give your child the picture of Percy Parrot and tell them that Percy likes to repeat things that others say and that they are going to pretend to be Percy.

Percy's favourite things to repeat are numbers, so you are going to say a list of numbers and you want them to listen carefully and repeat them, e.g.;



Adult: *'four, seven'*

Child: *'four, seven'*

Adult: *'three, nine, one'*

Child: *'three, nine, one'*

Remember that you can swap roles with your child. Let them say a list of numbers and you pretend to be Percy Parrot, repeating the numbers.

Instead of always saying numbers, why not try listing any objects and get 'Percy' to repeat them, e.g. *'car, ball, house'*.