



Receptive language

This is the ability to understand words you hear.

If your child has receptive difficulties they might:

- Quickly forget new ideas or words
- Find it hard to understand questions or instructions
- Watch others for cues
- Not know the order to do things in
- Be withdrawn or disruptive
- Talk a lot to cover their difficulty
- Take things literally
- Find it hard to play with others

Receptive language is an important communication skill which develops over time



Children progress from understanding simple single words to being able to follow a story.

You can help your child by



- Always saying their name before you speak
- Sitting near them on the same level before you speak
- Using as few words as possible and keeping what you say simple
- Turning off the tv or music when you are speaking to them
- Singing songs, saying rhymes and reading stories
- Talking to them about what's going on as you bake or make things
- Talking to them about items they find interesting
- Using new words such as size words - eg *big/small* or colour words – eg *red/green*