

Word recall

These are power point games that you will show to your students, and you can find them in the 'Resources' page at

<http://www.education.ox.ac.uk/research/resgroup/cl/ndcs/index.php>

To start, open the 'Word recall' Power Point file and present it to the child as a 'slide show' by clicking the icon in the bottom tool bar.

Also have a copy of the word recall recording sheet for each child.

In this game the teacher shows the child a picture and tells them a sentence to describe this picture. The child first has to decide whether the sentence is 'true' or 'false', and the teacher records the response on the 'word recall recording sheet'. Then the child has to remember the last word of the sentence. If the sentence has been signed to the child, the last sign must match with the last sign of the sentence, (Sign Supported English). The child has to remember this word and then when the next slide with '?' appears, they try to recall the word. The teacher records what has been recalled.

To help the child remember the word, the teacher needs to encourage the child to **rehearse** the word several times. The slide can remain on screen for the teacher to make sure the child knows which the target word is, and rehearses it several times to themselves before moving to the next slide. The first span (level) of the activity starts with just one picture, with one word to recall each time, but then moves to 2 pictures, with 2 words to remember, and so on up to Span 7 with 7 words to remember. The teacher needs to record the word the child recalls.

If the child recalls the word(s) correctly, in the correct order when there are 2 or more words, then the child gets a point for that trial. If in the wrong order, they need to be encouraged to rehearse by perhaps assigning one word to each finger so they can remember them in order more easily.

If the child is able to get 4 trials correct in a span, then they pass that span and can move to the next span. It may take several sessions to pass a span, particularly if a child reaches a plateau, so there will be alternative sets of sentences for spans 2,3 and 4 on the resource page in case some children need to revisit these spans several times, so that they meet fresh sentences and don't become bored with the same pictures.

Several times within a span, slides with dragons on will appear. These dragons ask the children 'What helps you to remember?' and we want the children to be encouraged to explain that they need to **rehearse** the target words. The next dragon reinforces this by saying 'Keep rehearsing', which acts as a reminder for

those who have forgotten or an agreement to those children who have been able to explain what they did with the rehearsing.

If a child gets the trial correct, it is the teacher's role to say well done. There is not a slide which gives this positive feedback, since each child will get different trials correct. So please remember to praise when they get the word correct as we cannot put this praise in to the slide show. It is important that the child starts each session at the appropriate level to provide the correct amount of challenge. The recording sheet will enable teachers to easily see which span the child achieved in the last session and start the next one at the next span to the one they achieved.

In optimum situations, we would hope that as a minimum, children can do this activity regularly each week in a 20 minute session with the teacher, over a 12 week period. We realise that each situation varies, so please do what you can to fit your teaching circumstances.

If a child gets stuck at a span in the Word recall task, the Colour recall task which is also teacher led via a Power point game can be played in the session. (See Colour recall game instructions) Both games require a teacher to lead the session.

The key strategy to encourage each time is **Rehearsal**.