

Teaching Action Words: Activity Ideas

Move your body	Model the action for your child and encourage them to copy. Take it in turns. e.g. "Now its Tommy's turn to jump".
Teddy does it	Act out the verb with a teddy or another character. Take it in turns to act out the actions. e.g. "teddy is climbing"
Link it to objects	Find objects that can do a particular action. Use the object and the verb together. "I am reading the book ", "Joe is throwing the ball ". You can also reverse this by asking your child what you can do with that object, there may be more than one action.
Small world toys	Explore the verb through play with small world toys and act out the characters doing the actions.
Verb Video	Make a short video of the child or teddy acting out the action. This can then be played back and described/ modelled again.
I got it wrong	Act out the incorrect use of a verb on purpose so your child can point it out. e.g. "Dolly is eating the table. Dolly can't eat the table"
Link it to places	Go to a place that you use a verb and model the word repeatedly, e.g. " climbing on the climbing frame, climbing on the hill, climbing up the ladder"
Conga	Line up the children and everybody does an action and says the word, e.g. we are waving .
Verb Photos	Take photos of your child doing actions. You can make the photos into a book/ display or take them out to look at them together.
Action of the day/ week	Place picture of a verb in an envelope and open it together to see what the word of the day/ week is going to be.
Ready, steady.. move	Take it in turns to pick a verb picture and then tells everyone to do the action.