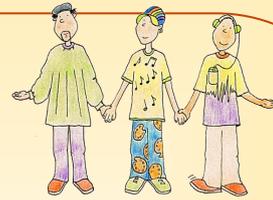


Vocabulary

Using the Mr Word approach to teach vocabulary

Activities and strategies to try:



- Introduce the **Word Learning Characters** (next page)
- Identify **5-10 vocabulary words** that the child might struggle to learn or remember. Try to select words that have the greatest relevance to the child's learning.
- **Name the word** that you are going to learn. Tell the child that you are going to learn about that word. Place or draw a picture of the word in Mr Word's speech bubble.
- Tell the child that you are going to put a **picture in your head** of the word. Explain that you will do this by **answering Mr Meaning's questions**. Answer Mr Meaning's questions together and write or draw the answer in each box.
- Once you have answered Mr Meaning's questions, **summarise the answers** for the child in one sentence (e.g. "I have a picture in my head of a **ball**. I can see Jason (child's name) **throwing** a ball in the **playground**. The ball is **round** and **soft**"). Explain that **keeping a picture in your head helps to remember the word**.
- Tell the child that you are going to **hear the word in your head** too. Explain that you will do this by **answering Mr Sound's questions**. Answer Mr Sound's questions together and write or draw the answer in each box. **Summarise the answers** for the child in one sentence (e.g. "Ball has **one syllable**, it rhymes with **wall**, and it starts with **b**"). Explain that **hearing the word in your head helps to say and write the word**.
- Once the child is familiar with these activities, **ask them to recap** what happens when we put a picture in our head (we can try to remember the word) and what happen when we hear the word in our head (we can say and write the word). They may need prompting to answer these questions to begin with.

Measuring progress: Child's ability to tell you 1/2/3 things about the word's meaning properties and phonic attributes; child's ability to remember and use targeted vocabulary in speaking and writing; child's ability to explain Mr Word's vocabulary learning strategies in his own words.

Word Learning Characters



Mr Word - A boy who sometimes can't find the word that he wants to say or sometimes finds it hard to learn new words. He has two "word helpers" who help him to learn new words or to remember old words.



Mr Meaning - A painter who acts as a word helper by providing semantic clues (e.g. what you do with it, where you find it, what it looks like, what it feels/tastes like).

He helps us to put a picture of the word in our head.



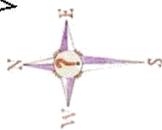
Mr Sound - A DJ who acts as a word helper by providing phonological cues (e.g. how many syllable it has, what it rhymes with, and what sound it starts with).

He helps us to hear the word in our head.

What does it mean?



Which lesson do you use it in?



What does it look like?



What does it make you think of?



**Put a picture
in your head.**

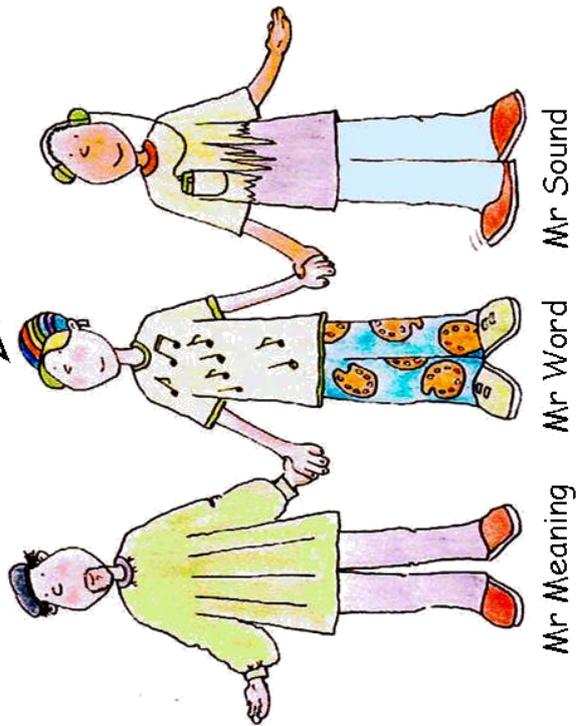


Picture it.

Act it.

Write it.

Draw it.



Mr Meaning

Mr Word

Mr Sound

How many syllables does it have?



What does it rhyme with?



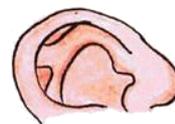
What sound does it start with?



Say it or sing it.



**Hear the word
in your head.**



Put your word in a sentence.