

Ready for School!

Traffic Light

Language

Language is a child's key to communication and interaction with their world. Children are constantly developing their language and communication skills in every aspect of their learning. As these skills are crucial, it is important that they are effectively developed. In a language-rich environment, language learning opportunities are offered throughout the day.

Language Readiness

To deem a child ready for school in terms of language development, he or she should be able to do some or all of the following:

- Understand and follow at least four consecutive instructions.
- Listen to others and respond appropriately, by asking questions and communicating thoughts and ideas.
- Speak audibly and express their thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.
- Show a basic command English when speaking.
- Identify themselves by name and age, state factors in their life, and name family members.

How to Play?

- Print the action cards and the set of empty cards. Paste or draw images in the empty cards to add as many actions as you need.
- The class sits in semi-circle so you can see everyone.
- Say "Listen carefully. I am going to tell you to do something. For example, jump! Turn around! Don't do it until I say Go!"
- Place cards down and pick up one. See it and say the instruction from the card. Leave a short pause before you say *Go!* Example instructions: *Stand up... Go! Pat your head ... Go! Close your eyes ... Go! Clap twice ... Go!*
- Pick up a new action card only after all students have completed the previous one.
- To add more complexity, pickup two and then three action cards to make a sequence.

Teaching Tips

You can show the cards to the students before saying *Go!* This will bring visual support so that they can understand instructions.

If students need further support with the key word *Go!*, you can use the green and red circle to show them when to start.

When a child struggles to follow instructions...

Do a demo. Doing things together step by step can also support students.

Begin with one simple instruction, for example, walk to the table. Making eye contact with the child could help to get their undivided attention. Also, try to have the child repeat the instructions back to make sure they understand. Then add a few more instructions to the first, making a sequence: Walk to the table and get a book.