

Speech and Language Therapy Activities Understanding of Language

Understanding pronouns "he" and "she"

What is it?

Pronouns are words such as "he", "she" and "they" which represent a person or object.

Your child is ready for these activities if they are beginning to use one or more pronoun but confuse them, or use one pronoun for all people, for example saying "he is jumping" instead of "she is jumping" for a girl.



How can you help?

The following tips can help to develop a child's understanding of pronouns:

- Practise the activities below little and often!
- Lots of repetition will help your child learn!

Ideas for activities

Explain to your child using dolls or pictures that if it's a boy we use 'he', and for girls we use 'she'.

Talking about what people/children are doing

Talk about what other people and children are doing using the pronouns 'he' and 'she'. For example "he is building a tower", "she is playing on the computer"



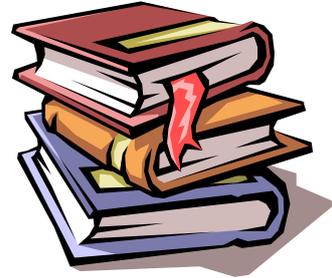
Pictures

Look at pictures together e.g. in books and magazines. Point at the pictures to get your child's attention and describe what is happening using 'he' and 'she'. For example: "he is riding a bike", "she is walking the dog".

Check your child's understanding by asking your child to find a picture where either a girl or boy are doing the action e.g. "can you find....he is eating", "can you find....she is listening to music", "can you find.....he is skateboarding".

Books

When you are reading books together talk about what is happening in the story using 'he' and 'she'.



Once your child is able to understand the difference between 'he' and 'she' encourage them to start using 'he' and 'she' when describing pictures and people.