

Childrens Speech and Language Therapy Action Words

Action words (e.g. running, sleeping, jumping) are needed to say sentences.

Here are some ways to practice action words:

- Start by saying action words during everyday activities. For example, when your child is drinking say “drinking”. Your child needs to hear the words, lots of times each day.
- Look at story books together and talk about what people/animals are doing.
- Sing nursery rhymes and do the actions with the child e.g. “this is the way we wash our hands, wash our hands, wash our hands” etc.
- When you are doing things together, talk about what you are doing, e.g., eating, reading, looking, talking, jumping, washing, swinging, sleeping, crying, drinking.



- Play games with the child's toy and take turns to tell the toy what to do e.g. “teddy jump!” “dolly sleep”
- Simon Says Game: Help your child to follow instructions about what to do.

e.g: “Simon Says.....Jump, walk, run, sleep, clap, cry, fall down” – they do it
If you just say “jump, walk, etc – they don't do the action

Take turns – let your child tell you what to do