

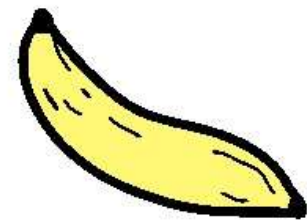
Learning new words

Children learn and remember new words best if you talk about them It helps to talk about:

- where you can see the object
- what kind of thing the object is
- what is special about it
- what the object is looks, feels, smells, tastes like
- what you can do with the object

If your child is learning the word banana you can say:

- it's a fruit
- bananas grow on trees
- you can buy bananas from the supermarket or the fruit shop
- bananas are yellow
- bananas have a thick skin
- you peel it and can eat the banana
- a banana is soft, squashy and sweet
- banana begins with the 'b' sound
- monkey's love to eat bananas
- pretend to be a monkey and eat a banana



This tells your child:

- where you find bananas
- what kind of thing bananas are
- what special parts bananas have
- what bananas do
- what you can do with bananas

when your child hears information about new words like this, they will learn and remember them more easily.

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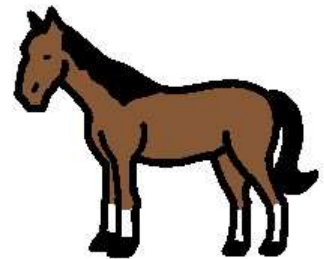
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With all of us in mind.

Learning new words

Here is another example. If your child was learning the word 'horse', you could say something like this:

- a horse is an animal
- a horse lives on a farm, in a stable or in a field
- horse begins with 'h'
- a horse has four legs, a long swishy tail and it is covered in hair. It has two pointy ears, two eyes and lots of big teeth
- horses say 'neigh'
- horses like to eat carrots, apples and hay
- a horse can run or gallop very fast
- you can ride a horse
- you can stroke and pat a horse
- shall we pretend to stroke the horse and say neigh?



this tells your child:

- where you find a horse
- what kind of thing a horse is
- what special parts horses have
- what horses do
- what you can do with a horse

For more information about how to help children learn and remember new words see our [helping children with vocabulary](#) and [word webs](#) video on our channel.