

# What should my 3 year old understand?

By 3 years old...

## Many different types of words

- action words (run, climb, roll, squish, etc.)
- labels of things (bag, toothbrush, car, etc.)
- description words (colours, texture, size, shape, taste, etc.)

## Body parts

- "Point to your nose/mouth/feet/ears/tummy"

## Colours (identify 2 -3 colours)

- "Which one is yellow/red/blue"

## Common opposites

- "The elephant is big. And a mouse is ..." (little)
- "Your gumboots are wet. And your other shoes are ...." (dry)
- "The rabbit is fast. And the turtle is ...." (slow)

## Some positions

- Where is your teddy? (on the bed, under the bed, in the box)

## How objects are used

- "What do you use a crayon for?" (drawing)
- "What do you use a cup for?" (drinking)
- "What do you use a toothbrush for?" (brushing teeth)

## Recognise their own needs

- Will tell you if they are hungry
- Can tell you if they need to go to the toilet

## Follows simple directions

- "put the cup in the sink"
- "put your bag on your back"
- "give me the yellow truck"

**Disclaimer:** this fact sheet is a guide only and cannot replace a formal language assessment by a trained Speech Pathologist. For references used to create this fact sheet, please contact: