

How Questions?

At School, children have to begin to make links between information they are taught and information they already know. These links then help them to develop their understanding and build foundations to expand their knowledge. Some children need extra help to make these links.

To start, gather some pictures of simple everyday situations. For example, 'What's wrong?' picture cards or picture books (where ordinary situations are altered to include something unexpected e.g. breakfast time – there is no milk left).

Talk about what's happening in the pictures. Ask 'Who?', 'What?', 'When?' and 'Where?' questions as they encourage the child to think about all aspects of the situation.

Then, move on to asking 'How?' questions. This encourages the child to explain how we can reach a decision about something, based on prior experience and knowledge. If the child finds it difficult to answer, try giving them clues.

Here are some example scenarios and questions which might be useful to help you think of some 'How?' questions.

<p>Scenario: Bike with square wheels</p> <p>How do we know the bike won't work? (clue – let's look at the wheels...are they normally that shape?)</p>
<p>Scenario: Car with smoke coming out of the exhaust</p> <p>How do we know the car is moving? (clue – let's look at the car...what can you see?)</p>
<p>Scenario: Girl wrapped up in warm clothes</p> <p>How do we know it's cold? How do we know it's winter? (clue – let's look at the girl...what is she wearing?)</p>
<p>Scenario: Night time scene</p> <p>How do we know it's night time? How do we know it's not day time? (clue – what's in the</p>

sky that might help us?)