

## What's In The Box?

### How to play

Put a range of familiar and interesting objects in a box.

Everybody then pats the box and sings to the tune of 'The farmer's in his den.'

**"What's in the box? What's in the box?  
(Child's name), (child's name) what's in the box?"**

Let the child whose name was sung open the box and tell everyone what they have found. Give them time to say what it is.

If the child doesn't give a verbal response help them by giving them a choice, e.g. **"Is it a hat or a ball?"**

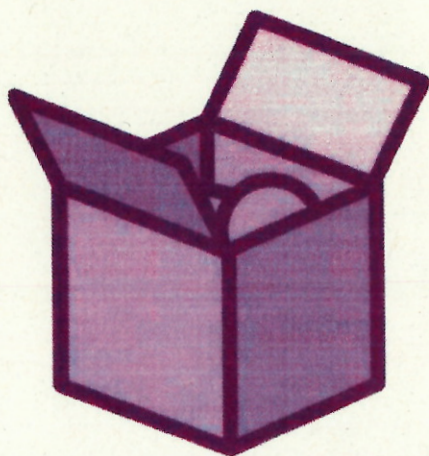
If they are still unable to name the item, name it for them or use a gesture to give them a clue.

You can extend the child's language and understanding by asking **"What do you do with it?"** to encourage the child to talk about the function of the object, e.g. You use a cup to drink from.

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### To encourage and develop

Talking and taking turns.



Small  
Talk 

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### General strategies for children with language needs

Get down on your child's physical level when you are playing together with them and be face to face and join in with their play. You can join in even more by commenting on what they are doing, e.g. **"Oh, you've found a little teddy."**

### To develop this activity try

Encourage the child to talk about the object by asking them to tell you things like **"Where would you find it?"** or **"What does it feel like?"**

After a couple of turns the adult then eye points to the child who goes next. Once the child acknowledges their turn, e.g. by nodding or looking at you, everyone then sings for that child. Continue until all children have had a turn.

Small  
Talk 