

Bean Bag Game

You will need

A bean bag and object picture cards or action pictures.

How to play

Lay out three pictures on the floor or table quite far apart so you can tell which one the child is throwing the bean bag at. Make sure you have the children's attention before calling out a child's name in random order.

Ask the child to **"Throw the bean bag on the tractor,"** or **"throw the bean bag on the boy eating."** Try not to point with your eyes or finger when asking the child to find the picture. Praise them if they find the right picture.

If the child throws the bean bag at the wrong picture, narrow the choice down to two pictures, by taking one away and ask them to throw the bean bag again.

If the child is reluctant to throw the bean bag, show them the right picture by pointing and then name it for them.

Ask the child to pass the bean bag to the next child. Continue until each child has had a turn.

To encourage and develop
Understanding, taking turns and attention and listening.



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General strategies for children with language needs

Call the child's name to get their attention before giving them a turn.

Give them time to respond once you have made a request.

Give them lots of praise if they find the right picture or have attempted to find the right picture and tell them again what they have found to give them lots of opportunity to hear the words repeated.

Try using gesture to accompany spoken words. This will help the child learn and remember the words.

To develop this activity try

Work on attention and listening skills further by gradually using more subtle ways of indicating which child's turn it is. First, point at each child in random order to indicate their turn during one round of turns, then move on to just eye pointing or nodding to indicate their turn.

Each child could play the role of 'leader' and indicate whose turn it is. Extend this further by getting them to use some of the subtle ways of indicating whose turn is next, e.g. by pointing or nodding. Encourage the child to indicate to the group which method they are going to use for the round of turns, e.g. "I'm going to nod..."