

Domain and goal

- Begins to understand the semantic category of "existence" (Bloom and Lahey Phase 1)



Activities

The majority of words your child learns will be the names of things, these are called nouns (dog, bottle, Daddy) and they come under the semantic category of existence. It is easy to teach these words because they are actual objects or people that can be seen or held and are relevant to your child. You will want to be careful that your child's language doesn't consist only of these nouns. They are the easiest to teach and equal time needs to be given to all the other types of words your child needs to learn. These will be introduced in Weeks 6, 7 and 11.

The labelling game

- It is important to teach your child the names or sounds of common objects in his daily life. This has begun by teaching your child the early learning to listen sounds or 'performatives'. Make a page in your *Sound Book* by gluing 6–7 different flaps on the page. In an envelope on the facing page, put pictures of various animals and vehicles from the ELTL sounds sheet. Before you share the book with your child, hide one picture behind each flap. Say to your child, "**Let's open the flap**", "**Oh look, it's a _____**". Your child may be able to imitate the word. If not, model the performative and wait for your child to imitate. Recap by saying, "**Yes, it's a _____ and it says/goes _____**". You can change the pictures behind the flaps each time you read the book. This will keep your child's interest in the page and will allow you to put new targets in the envelope each week.
- Choose a daily routine each week and decide on the items (nouns) you want to teach your child. For example – nappy changing: nappy, change table, baby wipe, bag, rubbish bin, etc. Be sure to always use your target word in a phrase with the noun at the end: "**You have a dirty nappy**". Put these words and phrases on a list for the entire family to see and use. Each week, add a new list for a new daily routine.

Date	What did your child do?