

## Introducing New Words

**Outcome:** Speaking in slow, simplified, or exaggerated speech helps children develop word recognition earlier. Commenting on pictures or items using descriptive words will help children understand spoken words and express themselves verbally and through gestures.

**Materials Needed:** Real life objects or pictures of: shapes, people, colours, animals or whatever you have available around the house.

### How:

Introduce new words to your child by describing specific objects, colours, shapes, people, animals, and feelings.

- Set out some pictures or items in your environment and talk to your child about them using descriptive language. Ask questions to encourage your child to talk.

For example: place a red ball on the table and say:  
"Where is the ball?" or "Show me red."

- Your child might answer:  
"ball" or "table" or "big" ...  
"red" or "it's red" ...
- When your child uses a word or points at the object, expand on it by adding new words that describe the object and emphasizing them:  
"The ball **is on the table.**"  
"The **big red** ball."