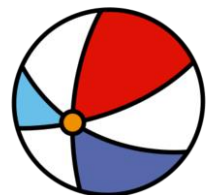
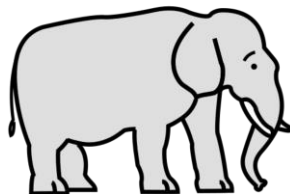


Commmap

Communication Support

The Big Resource Book of Vocabulary and Word Finding



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Background

[Commmap CIC](#) is a community interest company providing free resources to support the development of speech, language and communication for children and young people.

This resource pack was developed to provide a clear and easy to use package for speech and language therapists to give to parents/carers and education staff to support working on developing vocabulary and word finding skills.

How to use this resource pack

It is recommended this resource pack is used under the guidance of a speech and language therapist who has completed an assessment with your child. It is recognised that this is not always possible, so the activities have been designed for you to be able to work through yourself.

The activities are designed to focus on developing vocabulary and categorisation for children and young people who find this area of language development challenging. You can choose the vocabulary you would like to focus on and use this within the different games and activities included.

The key is to provide lots of opportunities where the words can be repeated in different situations.

What if I am unsure about how to use the pack?

An instructional video moving through all the steps included in the pack can be found on the Commmap website.

What is available on the Commmap website?

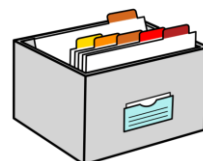
The [Commmap website](https://commmap.org) (commmap.org) provides a variety of free communication resources and advice on developing speech, language and communication skills. There are further speech sound resource packs available for different speech sounds and language elements.

How can I contact Commmap?

You can complete the [contact form on the website](#), send an email to tap@commmap.org, or use the Commmap Facebook group: facebook.com/groups/commmap.

Word finding difficulties occur when you know the words and have then stored in your brain, but you are then unable to find them when you are building a sentence to say

Our brain is like a big filing cabinet and all the words that we learn are sorted into different groups and these groups are linked together, e.g. a cat could be in the group called 'pets' with other animals such as dog, but also in the group 'cats' with other cats such as a tiger.



The more you use and think about a word, the easier it will be to find this word when you need it. Some people have weaker links between words and the groups they store them in which means it is not always easy to select the word that they want to use.

There are different strategies that may help a child or young person 'find' the words they want to use. These are listed below. Remember, different strategies work for different people, so try out and discuss the strategies with your child or young person and ask what helps them.

Children and young people who find it hard to find words will need extra time to talk. Give time and space, free from interruption, to encourage them to talk.



If you think you know what the word is, you can give a choice, e.g. 'is it a guitar or violin you are thinking of?' Be careful not to interrupt a chain of thought; or jump in too quickly with a choice.

If you think you know the word, you could use a gesture, mime or an action, or encourage your child or young person to show you or give clues with their hands.



If you think you know the word, you could give a clue by saying the first part of the word, e.g. 'is it a 'spi...' (spider).

Ask your child or young person to show you if possible – this could be by showing an object or drawing or writing down a clue.



You can ask your child or young person to tell you about the word they are thinking of. Some questions you could use are:



- Where do you find it?
- What does it do?
- What does it look like?
- Can you think of another word for it?
- What category does it belong to?

When learning new words, learn both the meaning (semantics) and the structure (phonology) of the word.

Talk about what the word means, are there any other words that mean the same, are there opposites?

Talk about the structure of the word – how many syllables does it have? Does it rhyme with any other words? What sound does the word start/end with? Can it be put with other words or part words to make a new word?

Choose key words to work on and use them in different activities so the use of the word generalises and can be used in lots of different situations.

Category Dice Game

Equipment needed:

- Category dice from resources section
- category cards from resources section

1. Cut out and make up the category dice found in the resources index towards the back of the pack. Cut out a selection of category cards that match the categories shown on the dice.

2. Spread the category cards on the surface in front of you and your child/young person.

3. Explain to your child/young person that you are going to take turns at rolling the dice, which ever side the dice lands on, you need to find a picture that fits into that category.

4. Name the item that you have found. If you child/young person is finding it challenging to name items, try using some of the strategies mentioned earlier in this pack - Remember some items might fit in 2 or more subcategories dependent on the child/young person's personal experience. You could use this as a discussion point.

5. If your child/young person can name the item, ask them to think of another item that belongs to the chosen category.



Category Sort

Equipment needed:

- Large category cards from resources section
- Small category cards from resources section

1. Print and cut out the large category cards and the small picture cards.
2. Start by sorting items from two different categories.
3. Place the picture cards from the categories face down. Explain to your child you are going to sort the items into groups.
4. Each take a turn at choosing a picture card, naming them item and placing it in the on the appropriate category card.
5. If your child can sort items into two categories, next attempt items from three different categories.

Subcategory Dice Game

Equipment needed:

- Subcategory dice from resource section
- Small category cards that relate to subcategory dice

1. Choose which subcategory you would like to focus on. Cut out and make up the dice. Cut out the matching subcategory cards.
2. Spread the subcategory cards on the surface in front of you and your child/young person.
3. Explain to your child/young person that you are going to take turns at rolling the dice, which ever side the dice lands on, you need to find a picture that fits into that category.
4. Name the item that you have found. If you child is finding it challenging to name items, use some of the strategies mentioned at the front of this pack.
5. Remember some items might fit in 2 or more subcategories dependent on the child's personal experience. You could use this as a discussion point.

What's in the bag?

Equipment needed:

- Adjective boards from resources section
- Category cards from resources section or real objects



1. Print out the adjective symbol boards.
2. Explain to your child/young person that you are going to take turns to put an object/picture in the bag and give clues to the other person to guess what it is. Explain you are going to practice using lots of different words to describe the item.
3. You go first to model how to carry out the activity. Choose an object/picture to put in the bag.
4. Give a description of the item - model using the symbol boards to find words you could use to describe the item.
5. Encourage the child/young person to guess the item and then swap roles. A blank symbol chart can be used to add your own words and descriptions.

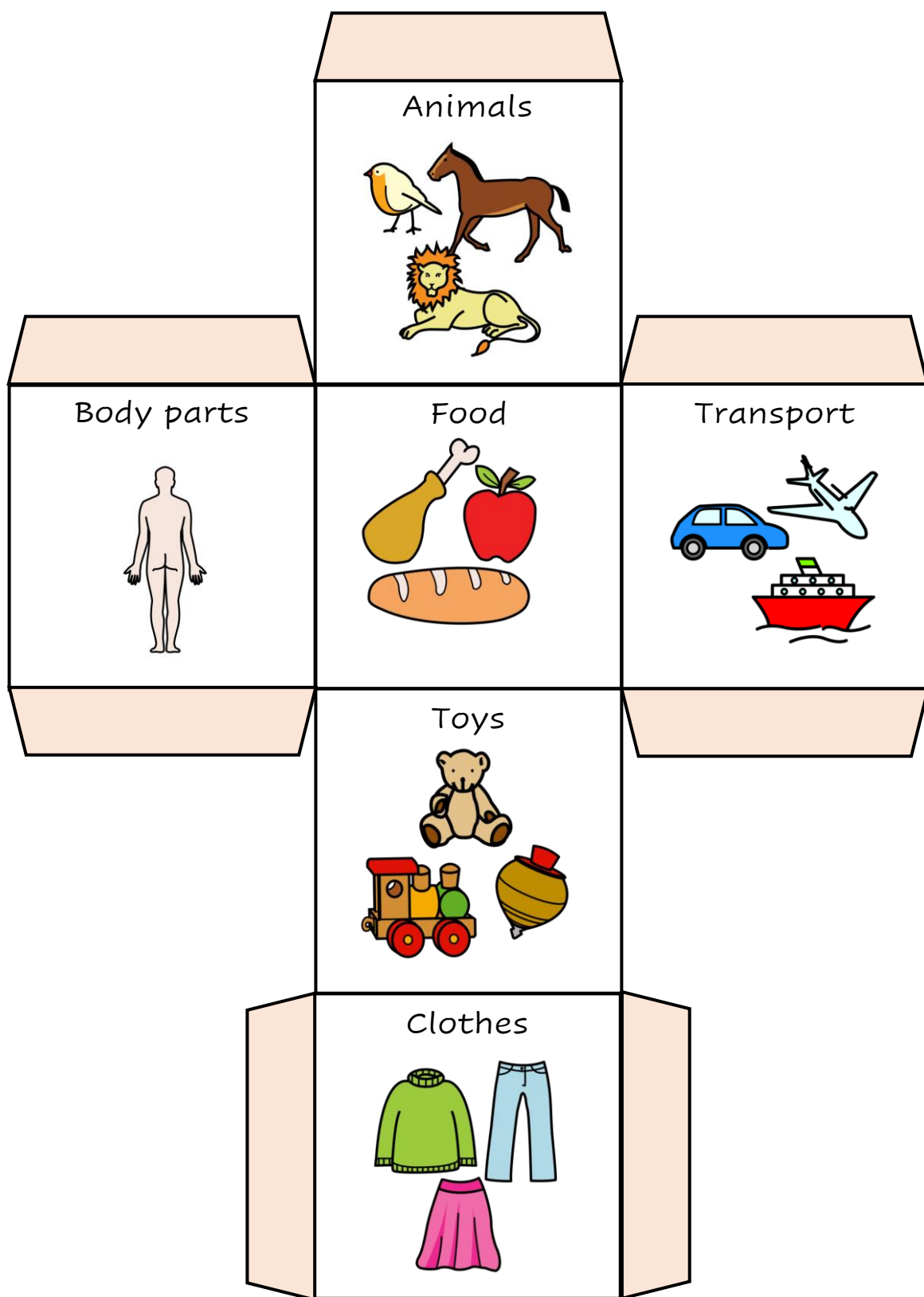
Description Matching Game

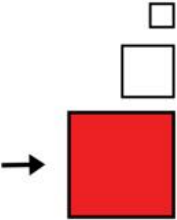
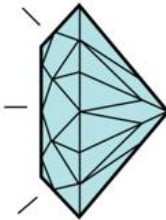
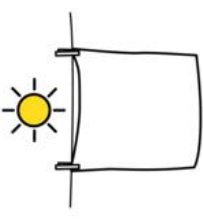


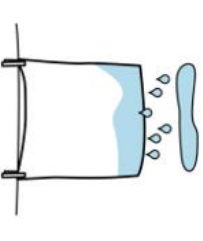






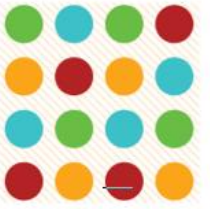
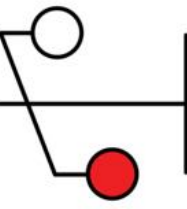


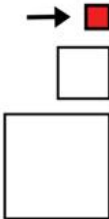
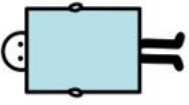
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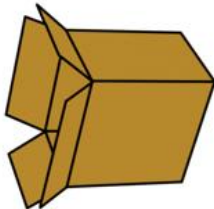
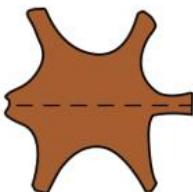

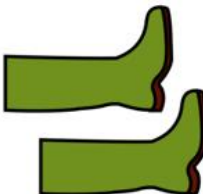
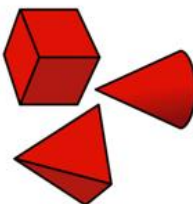



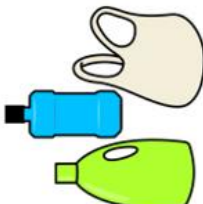
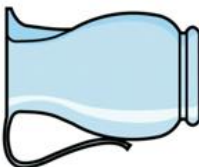
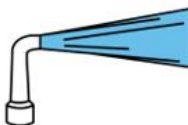



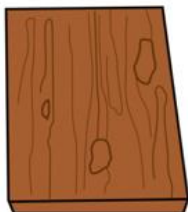

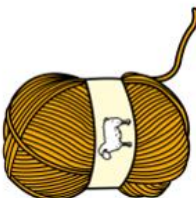
- Adjective cards from resources section
- Selection of category cards from resources section

















1. Print out the resources. Lay the category cards out in front of you and place the adjective cards face down in a pile.
2. Explain to your child/young person that you are going to take turns to turn over a card which will have a describing word written on and you both have to race to find a picture that matches the describing word.
3. The first person to find a matching card keeps it and the next turn starts. At the end of the game, count up who has the most cards to find out the winner..



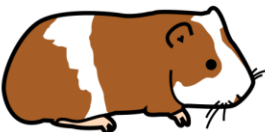
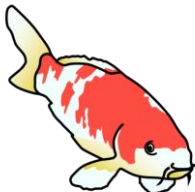
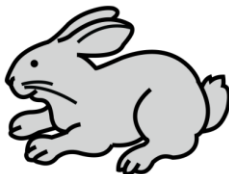



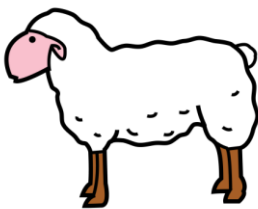
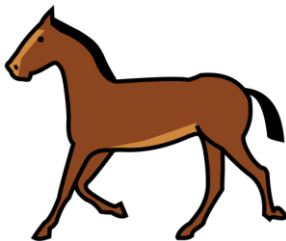
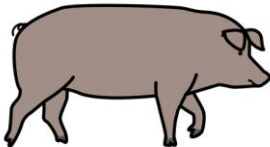
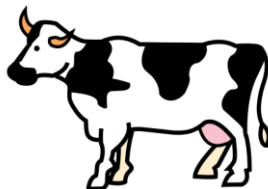
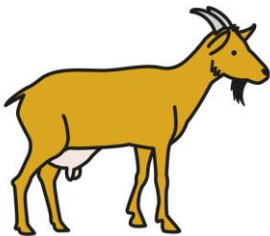
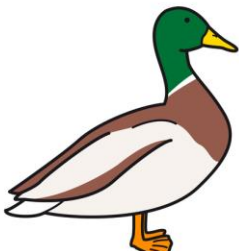
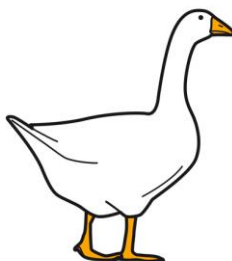
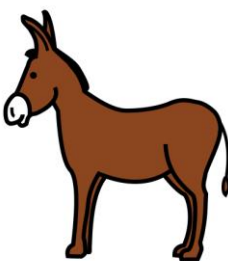
Category Dice	11
Adjective Symbol Board 1	12
Adjective Symbol Board 2	13
Adjective Symbol Board 3	14
Adjectives Symbol Board – Blank Chart	15
Animals 1	16
Animals 2	17
Animals 3	18
Animals 4	19
Animals 5	20
Animals 6	21
Clothing/items you wear 1	22
Clothing/items you wear 2	23
Clothing/items you wear 3	24
Transport 1	25
Transport 2	26
Food 1	27
Food 2	28
Toys	29
Body Parts	30
Certificate	31

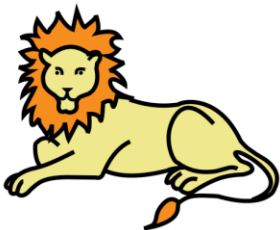
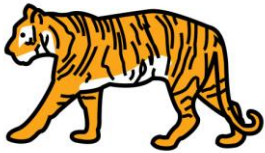
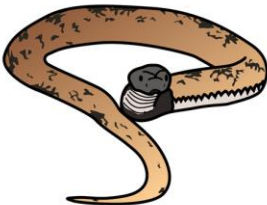
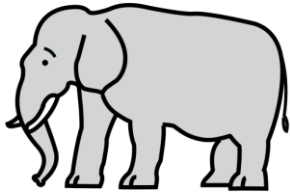

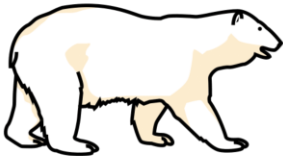

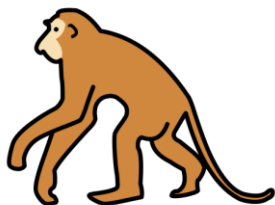
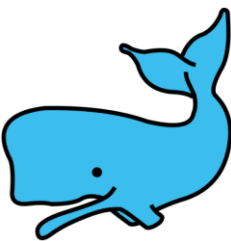

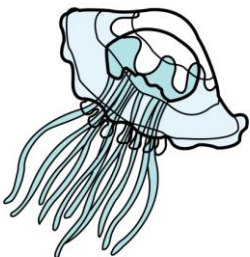
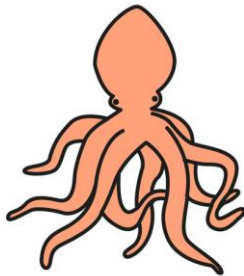
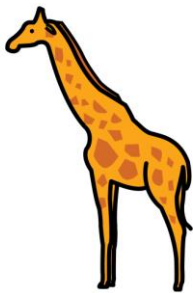
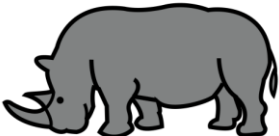
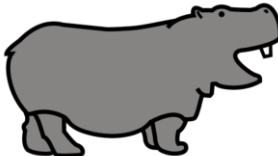



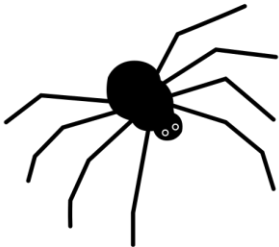


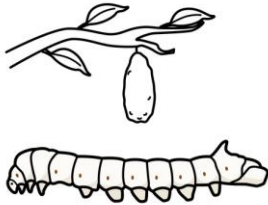

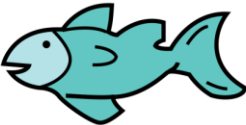
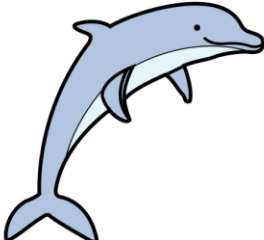
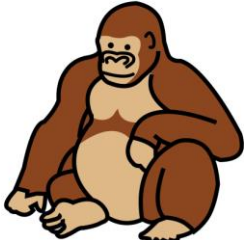
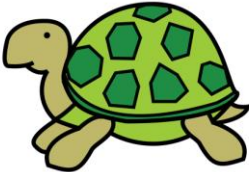

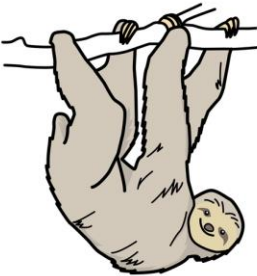

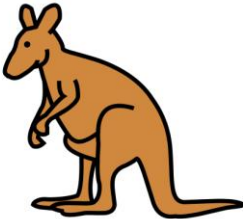



Big/large		Shiny		Dry	
Patterned		Rough/Bumpy		Wet	
Plain		Smooth		Hard	
Multicoloured		Light		Soft	
Spotty		Heavy		Furry	
Stripey		Little/small		Dull	

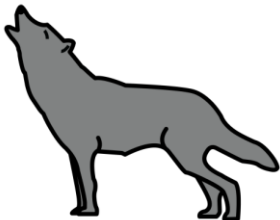


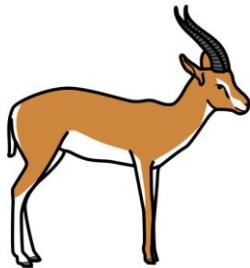
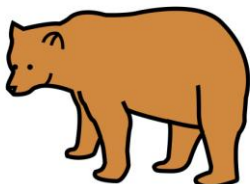

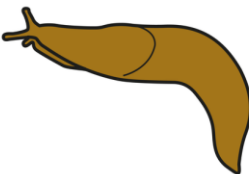
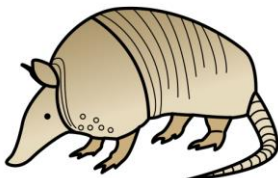
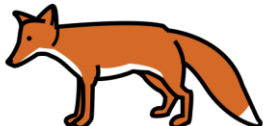

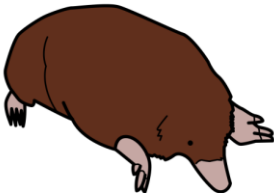
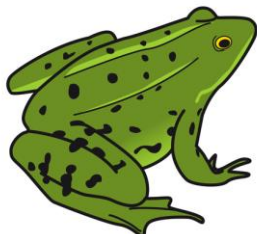
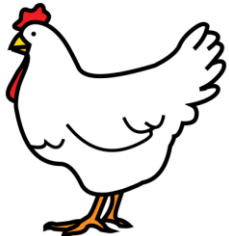
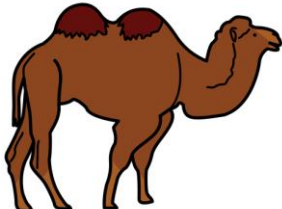

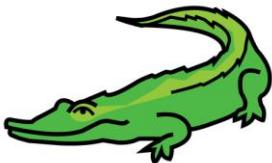
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Metal		Brick		Organic Material	
Wood		Stone		Wool	


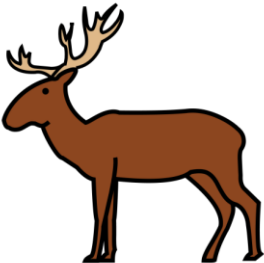

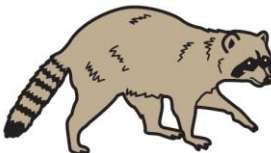
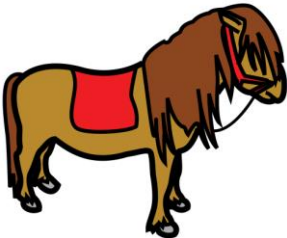
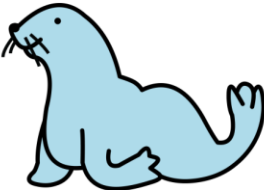
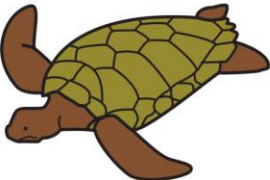


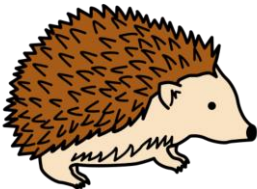

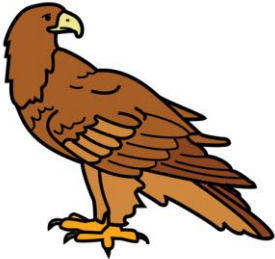

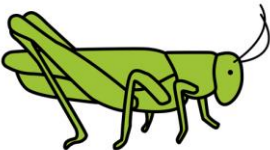

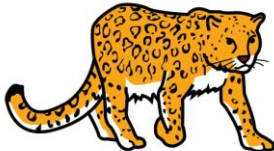
White		Silver			
Black		Pink			
Green		Brown		Dark	
Yellow		Grey		Light	
Blue		Orange		Beige	
Red		Purple		Gold	

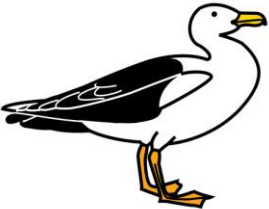



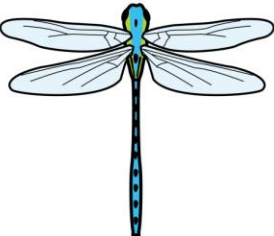
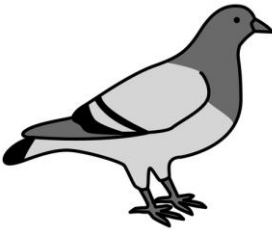
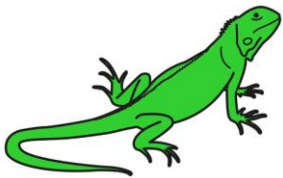
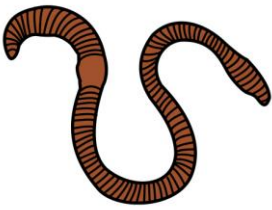


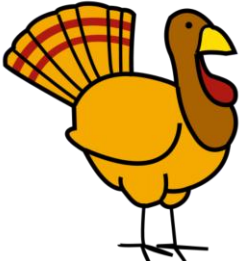

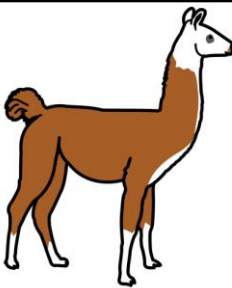

			
cat	dog	guinea pig	goldfish
			
rabbit	rat	mouse	budgie
			
sheep	horse	pig	cow
			
goat	duck	goose	donkey


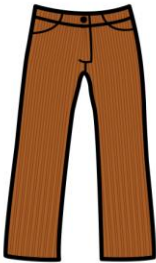
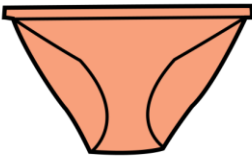













			
lion	tiger	snake	elephant
			
penguin	polar bear	panda	monkey
			
whale	shark	jellyfish	octopus
			
giraffe	rhino	hippo	butterfly

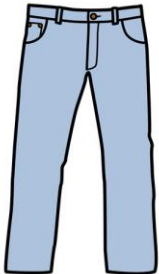








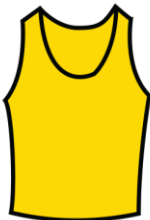
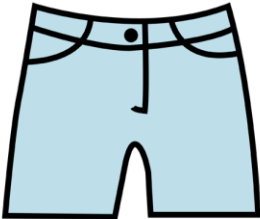





			
spider	bee	ladybird	caterpillar
			
crab	fish	dolphin	gorilla
			
tortoise	lizard	sloth	parrot
			
kangaroo	koala	swan	flamingo



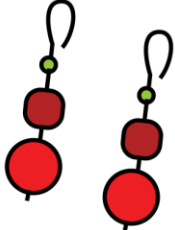

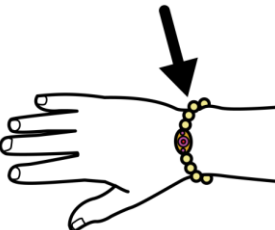
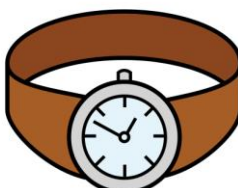
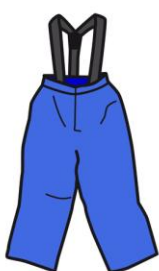

			
wolf	otter	beaver	gazelle
			
bear	snail	slug	armadillo
			
fox	squirrel	mole	frog
			
chicken	camel	bat	crocodile


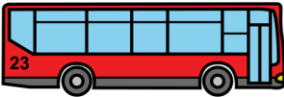






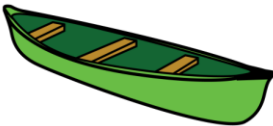

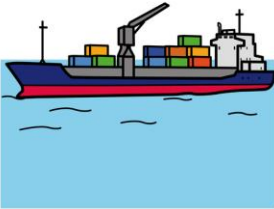



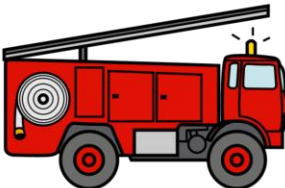

			
alligator	deer	platypus	raccoon
			
pony	seal	turtle	walrus
			
eel	hedgehog	zebra	eagle
			
owl	grasshopper	chameleon	leopard




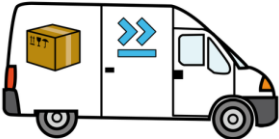




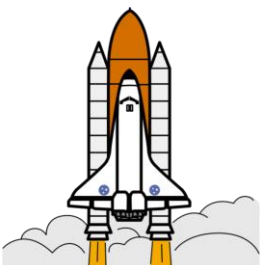

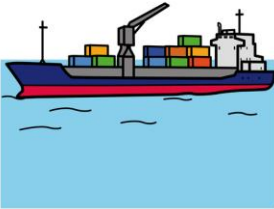
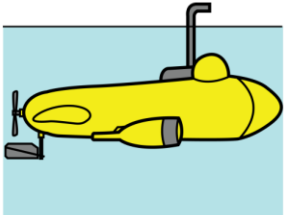
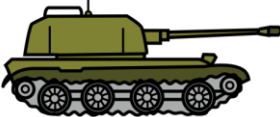

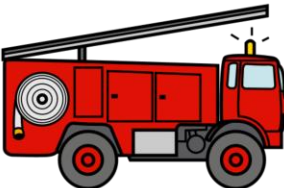

			
seagull	scorpion	skunk	toucan
			
Humming bird	dragonfly	peacock	pigeon
			
iguana	worm	badger	ferret
			
turkey	cockerel	llama	seahorse






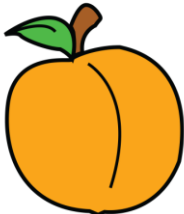

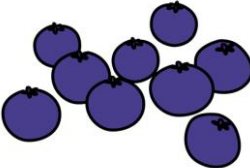
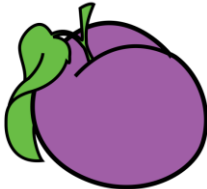
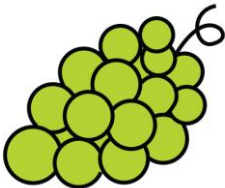
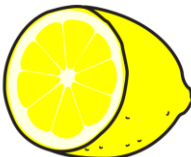
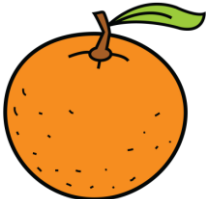


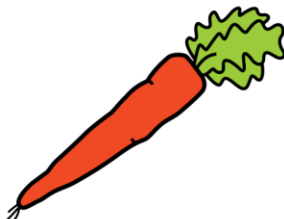
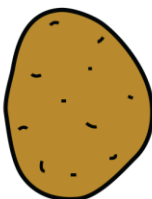
			
jumper	trousers	pants	T-shirt
			
cardigan	shirt	blouse	skirt
			
hat	hat	hat	hat
			
bobble hat	necklace	glasses	Sunglassess

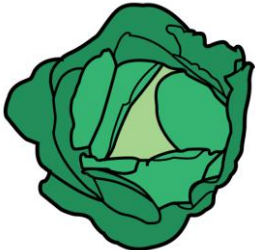
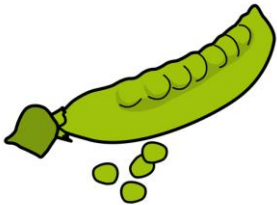
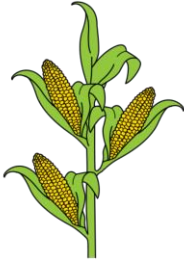


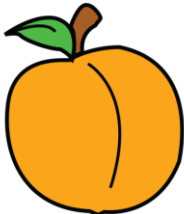

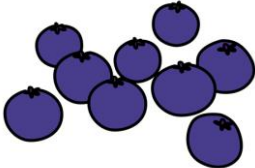
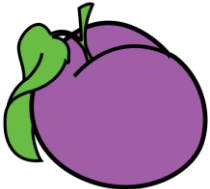
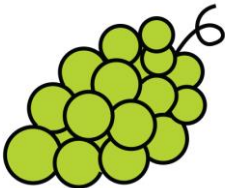
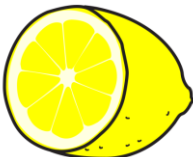
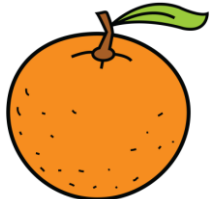


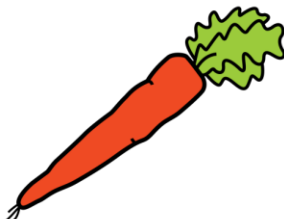
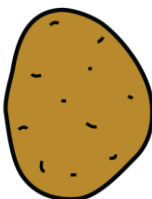
			
jeans	socks	tights	pyjamas
			
Polo shirt	jacket	coat	hoody
			
dress	vest	shorts	Swimming trunks
			
shoes	trainers	flip flops	welly boots

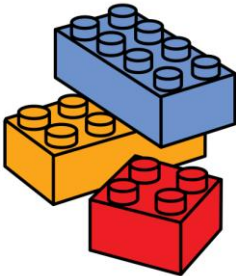
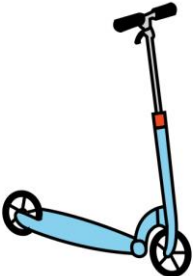



			
boots	slippers	earrings	scarf
			
bracelet	ring	watch	dungarees
			
waistcoat	belt	braces	Swimming costume
			
tie	track suit	sandals	turban

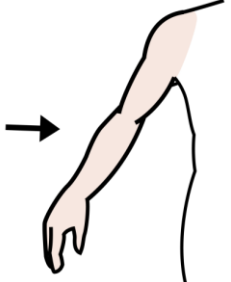
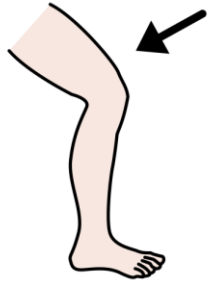

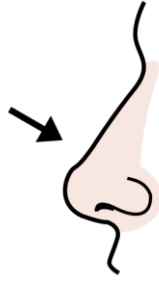


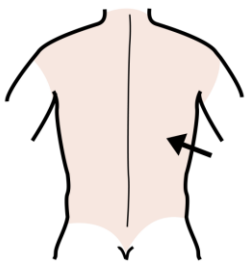
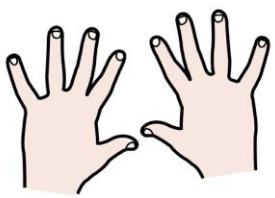
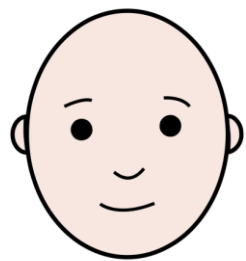
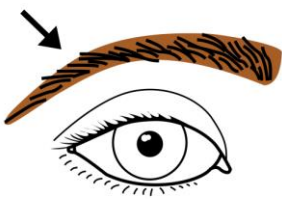
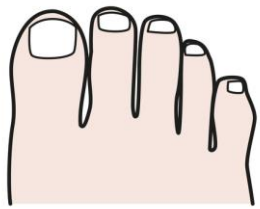
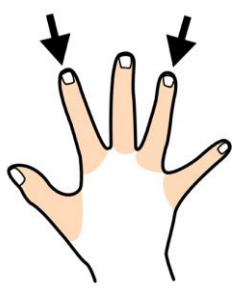
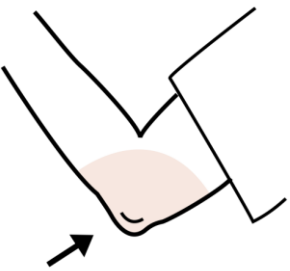
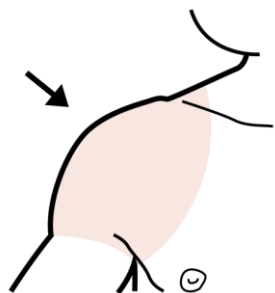
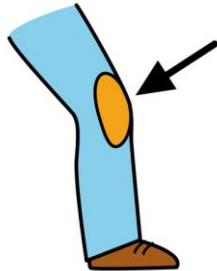

			
car	bus	lorry	bike
			
motorbike	truck	tractor	boat
			
canoe	aeroplane	cargo ship	helicopter
			
unicycle	Police car	fire engine	ambulance

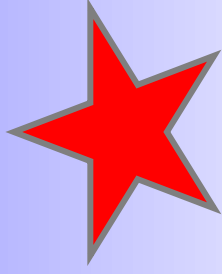
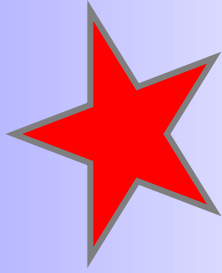
			
train	taxi	tram	van
			
Underground train	jeep	dinghy	kayak
			
rocket	ATV/quad	cargo ship	submarine
			
tank	hot air balloon	fire engine	ambulance

			
apple	banana	pear	strawberry
			
raspberry	peach	pineapple	blueberry
			
plum	grapes	lemon	orange
			
lime	broccoli	carrot	potato

			
cabbage	peas	corn	strawberry
			
raspberry	peach	pineapple	blueberry
			
plum	grapes	lemon	orange
			
lime	broccoli	carrot	potato

			
ball	train	cars	dolly
			
blocks	scooter	bike	teddy
			
sand pit	toy food	slinky	Doll's house
			
marbles	Jigsaw puzzle	Yo yo	slide

			
arm	leg	eyes	nose
			
mouth	ears	back	hands
			
face	eyebrow	toes	fingers
			
elbow	shoulder	knee	brain



Congratulations

You are a wonderful word
learner!

Certificate awarded to

Name:

Date:

Awarded by: