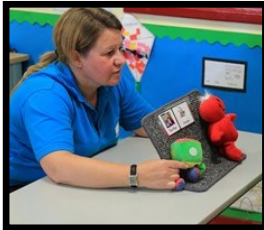


Introducing Objects of Reference

Objects of Reference is an approach used for children and people in the early stages of communication development.



Objects of Reference can support:

- Understanding of daily routines.
- Understanding of spoken language.
- Communicating choices.



What are Objects of Reference?

- They are objects that represent a person, object, place or activity.
- They need to be easy to carry and easy to clean.
- They should **not** be something that is needed as part of your activity or routine.

How do we get started?

- Use 3-5 Objects of Reference to start with so they are not too confusing. Pick things that you do every day with your child like going outside, mealtimes, seeing a favourite person, or a favourite activity.
- You will need to:
 1. Show the Object of Reference right before the activity.
 2. Let your child hold it if they can.
 3. Use a word or phrase e.g. 'it's dinner time'.
 4. Show them the person, object, place or activity.
 5. Put the Object of Reference away when the activity is happening or has finished.
- It takes time for children to learn what objects of reference mean.

Some examples of Objects of Reference:

Outside:



Bath time:



Mealtime:



Where can I learn more?

This video explains more about using Objects of Reference:

[How to use objects of reference - YouTube](#)

(you can find the video by typing the title + 'Bryony Rust' into YouTube)