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Following instructions games

This game uses the idea of 'information carrying words'. 'Information carrying words' are the words in the sentence the child must listen to, without additional contextual clues, to understand the sentence. Clues that could be inadvertently given include e.g. looking at the item, pointing, etc. They are split into differing levels, with some examples of instructions to give. Vary the instructions when you play the games and include silly instructions, as they may become part of a routine.
These games are suitable for language activities and attention and listening, and can be adapted in any way e.g. in a small group for turn taking and listening. They may also be used by speech and language therapists as part of an informal assessment or therapy game.

This game can be laminated with Velcro added so that the children can stick the items on. In addition to this game, the instructions can be used with toys/objects in the classroom or during play. Using instructions at 'one information carrying word' level would generally be suitable for children working at P level 4 in the P scales. Using instructions at 'two information carrying words' would generally be suited for children working at P5. Instructions at 'three information carrying words' would generally be suited for children working at P6. Instructions at 'four information carrying words' could be used with children working at P7.

This game uses instructions at 2 information carrying words, with instruction ideas given in the instruction card. Additionally, the game can be adapted to use instructions at one information carrying word level.

Additionally big/ little can be introduced. When using big/ little, put big and little items next to each other to allow the difference to be easily seen.

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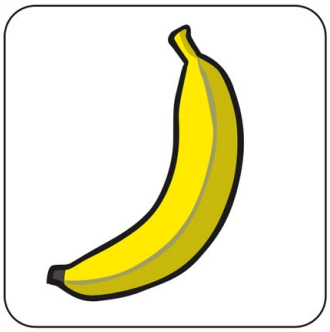
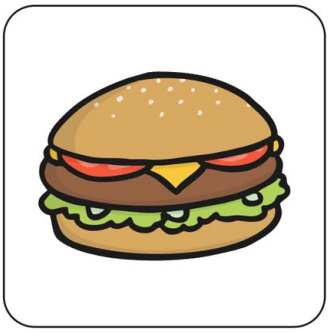
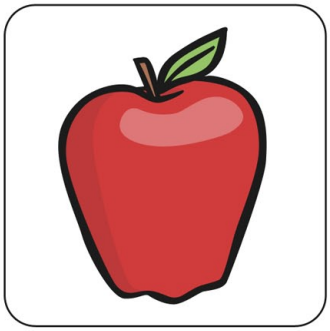

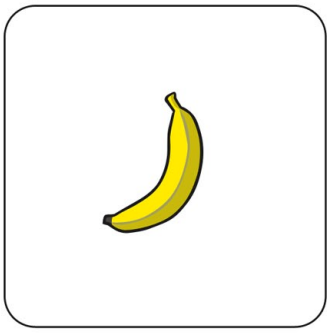
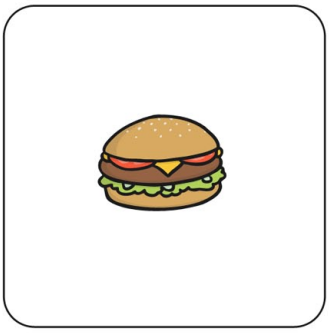
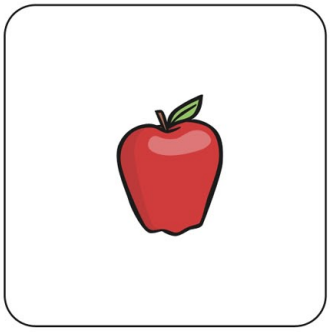

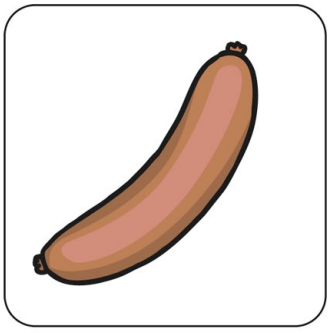

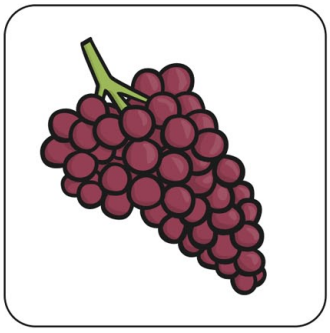
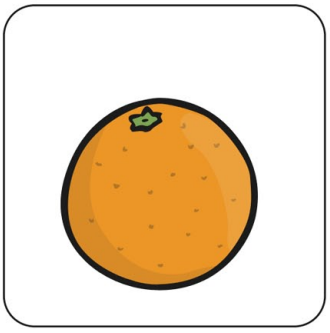
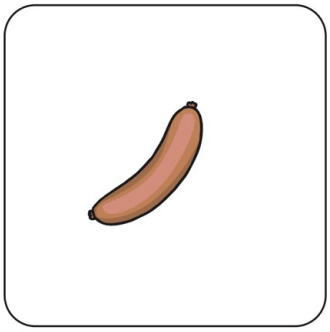

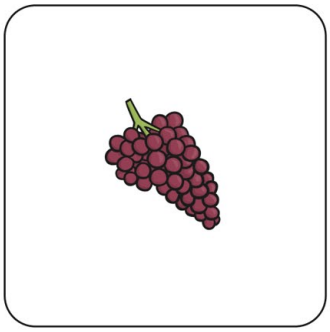
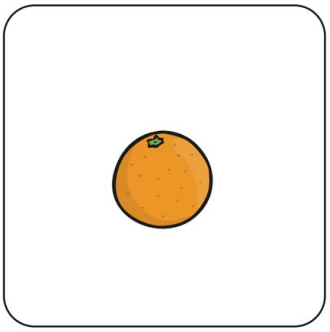

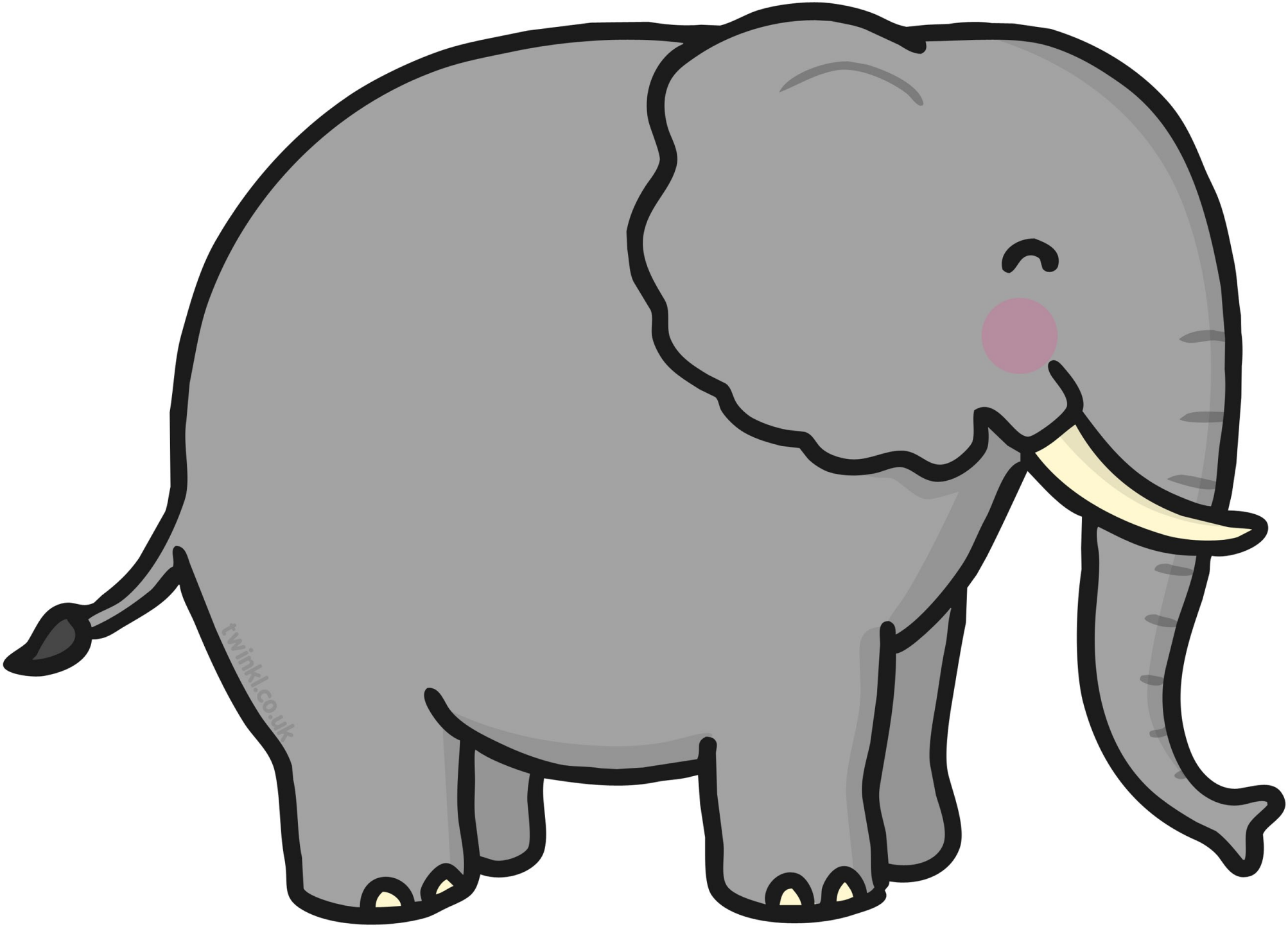
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Give the burger to the elephant.

Give the ice cream to the elephant.

Give the apple to the elephant.

Give the banana to the elephant.

Give the sausage to the elephant.

Give the cupcake to the elephant.

Give the grapes to the elephant.

Give the orange to the elephant.

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Use the teddy, elephant and food pictures with these instructions. This will make a 2 information carrying word activity. To make this into a 1 information carrying word activity just use one picture – either the teddy or the elephant.

Give the big burger to the elephant.

Give the big ice cream to the elephant.

Give the big apple to the elephant.

Give the big banana to the elephant.

Give the big sausage to the elephant.

Give the big cupcake to the elephant.

Give the big grapes to the elephant.

Give the big orange to the elephant.

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Use the teddy, elephant and food pictures with these instructions. This will make a 2 information carrying word activity. To make this into a 1 information carrying word activity just use one picture – either the teddy or the elephant.

Give the little burger to the elephant.

Give the little ice cream to the elephant.

Give the little apple to the elephant.

Give the little banana to the elephant.

Give the little sausage to the elephant.

Give the little cupcake to the elephant.

Give the little grapes to the elephant.

Give the little orange to the elephant.

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Use the teddy, elephant and food pictures with these instructions. This will make a 2 information carrying word activity. To make this into a 1 information carrying word activity just use one picture – either the teddy or the elephant.

Give the burger to the teddy.

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Give the ice cream to the teddy.

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Give the apple to the teddy.

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Give the banana to the teddy.

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Give the sausage to the teddy.

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Give the cupcake to the teddy.

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Give the grapes to the teddy.

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Give the orange to the teddy.

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Use the teddy and food pictures, both big and small to create an activity at 2 information carrying word level. Place the big and little food pictures next to each other.

Give the little burger to teddy.

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Give the little ice cream to teddy.

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Give the little apple to teddy.

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Give the little banana to teddy.

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Give the little sausage to teddy.

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Give the little cupcake to teddy.

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Give the little grapes to teddy.

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Give the little orange to teddy.

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Use the teddy and food pictures, both big and small to create an activity at 2 information carrying word level. Place the big and little food pictures next to each other.