

Activities to develop action words

Early verbs:

jump	run	walk	skip	hop	push	
	pull	sit	stand	lie	fall	throw
kick	roll	sleep	drink	eat	wash	
	look	cuddle	hold	come	go	stop
drive	carry	give	take			

- Action words should be introduced in the course of play or everyday domestic activity, if possible, as there is usually much repetition of the same words. For example, in a cooking situation there will be lots of opportunities for '**stir**', '**mix**', '**put**', '**cut**' etc.
- Similarly, when playing football you can use '**kick**', '**throw**' frequently. You can model these verbs and then ask the child what you should do. E.g. 'Shall I **kick** the ball or **throw** the ball?'
- Sing action songs which use verbs, like 'Here we go round the mulberry bush' where you can use lots of verbs ('this is the way we')
- Play a simple version of Simon Says. The child can have a turn telling you what to do, by using picture prompts.
- Use large toys/dolls to play out actions, such as '**wash** teddy', 'make monkey **jump**' etc.
- Use gestures/signs to demonstrate verbs where possible.