

# Level Six (5+ years) Variations on a 'shopping' theme.

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## Why is this important?

In order to progress at school and in life, children need to be able to sustain attention for increasing lengths of time.

### What to do

- In a small group, play a game where children have to repeat what the previous child has said and then add something of their own, e.g.
  - 'I went to the zoo and saw a lion, a tiger ...', etc. or 'I went to the shop and bought an apple, some milk ...', etc.
- Each child in the group should repeat the initial sentence (e.g. 'I went to the shop and bought ...'), repeat the items spoken by the other children who have had a turn before them and then add their own items.
- If particular topics are being covered in school, try to link the vocabulary to the topic wherever possible (e.g. if the topic is clothes, then play 'I went to the clothes shop and bought ...').



### Step up

- Increase the size of the group so more items need to be remembered.



### Step down

- Keep the group of children small, thereby reducing the number of things to remember.
- Give clues if children are struggling (e.g. say the first sound of the word for them or describe the object he/she is trying to remember).
- At the beginning of the game, place a pile of upturned pictures in the middle of the group. Each child should select the picture from the pile when it is his/her turn to think of the next item and show it to the group as well as say it. Ensure that the child hides his/her picture once he/she has taken his/her turn. The pictures can be shown again by each child as the person recalling them says the word.