



*Language: English*

## ORAL LANGUAGE IDEAS

### Ideas for Partner Discussion

- Exchanging personal information e.g. where you live; a person in your family; what you do when you get home from school; people you and your family visit; places you and your family visit.
- Sharing likes and dislikes e.g. two things you like to do at lunchtime, on weekends, on holidays; favourite TV programmes and why; favourite game and why; favourite time of day and why; favourite food; thing you most like to do when raining; favourite thing you own and why.
- Recounting experiences e.g. when I was small; my earliest memory; something that made me very happy/very sad; something that happened that was very exciting; what I did on my last birthday; where I went/what I did last Christmas; the last film I saw; a shopping trip.
- Expressing opinions e.g. what makes you angry e.g. when playing a game; what you think about children's programmes on TV; what you think about the selection of books in the school library; what you think about the shops in your town; the layout of your school/classroom; how you would feel if all the trees in school grounds were cut down.
- Self-esteem e.g. things you are good at; feel you are not good at; one thing you would like to learn to do and why; what is special about the way you look; how you would describe yourself to a pen-pal; people who are special to you and why; something you like about your partner; something you could do together at lunchtime.
- Describing and explaining e.g. a walk down your street; your back garden/yard; a walk round your house; your favourite room; what you would like to change in your house/school and why; a game and how to play it; your favourite sandwich and how to make it.
- Swapping stories and jokes e.g. tell about a book you are reading; tell a joke; a sad/happy/amazing/tall story about a character.



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- **Imagination e.g. what you would choose if you could buy three new things for your bedroom; what you would do if told you could have a free day; an animal you would choose to be and why; what the world would be like if you slept for a hundred years and then woke up; a birthday present you would give a baby/old person/character from a story.**

*Suggested methodology for partner discussion:*

*Think-Pair-share – Children in pairs A & B; Teacher introduces topic to be discussed; each child takes time to think; A tells B and B must listen; B tells A and A must listen; A reports to class what B has said and vice versa.*

**Barrier Games – Descriptions:**

**Children sitting side by side with barrier between and describe/instruct:**

- **Simple sequence or pattern making e.g. stringing beads, draw a clothes line.**
- **Colour parts of same picture.**
- **Simple construction e.g. Lego**
- **Location e.g. place items on a picture board, park cars in a car park.**
- **Grids – position shapes or objects on a grid; road map; Battleship game.**
- **Route finding – describe how to get from one point to another on map, listener draws route on corresponding map.**
- **Spot the Difference pictures – commercially available.**
- **Guess Who**

**Group Barrier Games**

- **Children instructed to draw pictures using simple geometric shapes. Children in turns give teacher instructions to draw their picture on blackboard. Teacher makes deliberate errors to encourage more precise instructions.**
- **Choose one child as illustrator. Others in groups draw picture of one step of procedure e.g. Group 1 House; Group 2 House with pathway to front door; Group 3 Add flower garden; Group 4 Add trees. Groups describe picture in sequence.**



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**Ideas for Group Discussion:**

Children in groups of three or four. Possible roles – Recorder, Reporter, Encourager, Time Manager.

- Brainstorming a topic e.g. Going to the Beach, safety rules you may need to follow from leaving home to leaving beach.
- Choices e.g. Grannie sick in bed, agree three items from given list that you could bring her.
- Ranking e.g. Healthy Eating, rank items of food from given list in order of healthiest; Going on a school camp in the desert, rank items from list you should take.
- Story Cloze e.g. Story with words omitted, agree best words to fill gaps; Cartoon Strip with empty speech bubbles, agree what characters are saying.
- Sequence a story using ‘First’, ‘Then’, ‘Next’ After a while’, ‘Eventually’, ‘In the End’ framework.
- Given list of attribute words e.g. coarse, smooth, glowing, horrific, terrific, amazing etc. groups discuss what word means and suggest something word might describe.
- Group compose a ‘What am I?’ or ‘Who am I?’ riddle using three or four prompts. Then ask rest of class.
- Build Sentences using Adjective, Noun, Verb Adverb framework.
- KWL (Know, Want to find out, Learned)– Prior to reading, group identifies all that is Known about the topic, What they Want to find out (formulate questions). After reading record all that has been Learned.
- Structured Debate: e.g. Summer is the Best Season; Big Families are Best; Many friends are better than one best friend; It’s good to live in the same place all your life; Ideas from stories e.g. Cinderella was her own worst enemy.

Roles assigned as above; Groups discuss and record reasons for ‘Yes’ and ‘No’ response; whole class reconvenes; each group presents ideas; teacher records on master sheet; class vote to determine outcome.