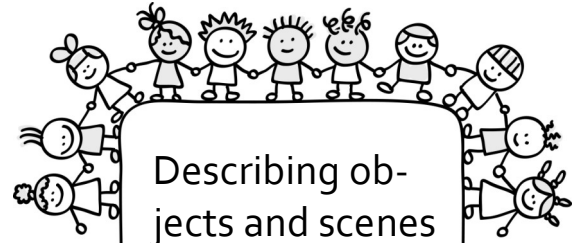


Date:



Describing objects and scenes

There are some basic pieces of information your child will learn to describe objects:

- How many objects or parts there are
- What size the object is
- What shape it is
- What color
- Where the object is

When describing a scene, your child will learn to include the following information:

- Objects, animals and/or people in the scene
- Actions taking place
- Feelings or mood
- Time of day or year
- Comparison—this is included to help your child describe something he may not have words for. For example, “he has a nose that looks like a pickle.”

Dear Parents:

To this point, we have been working with your child to improve his intake and understanding of information. Now we are going to move on to helping him explain his thoughts and ideas more clearly.

The goal is for him to explain what he is thinking and what he needs so other people will understand him. We aren’t going to work on how clearly he says words. We are going to work on putting his ideas together so they mean what he wants.

We are going to work on two main areas:

1. How things look—this involves describing what objects and scenes look like—see the column to the right for an explanation. Attached are pictures of the features we’re using.
2. What things happened—this involves telling about an event or something that happened— see the right hand column on the next page for an explanation. Attached are pictures of things we are focusing on.

Right now, gently prompt him to include the important pieces of information. Do not expect him to do it right away, though. Model describing for him. Point to each picture as you tell him about something. Remember, not all features will be needed for every description.

Extending his new skills into everyday life

As with the other things we’ve worked on, we want to make sure your child uses them every day. To do this, first, we make sure he knows what to do and gets lots of practice. Then we help him think about places where these skills are important.

Please think about times and places where your child needs explain things really clearly to other people. Think of times and places **at home**. For example, you may want him to explain clearly which jacket he wants to wear or what happened when he was playing. How about when he’s



out **in the community**? When do you want him to explain his thoughts and needs more clearly? For example, you might want him to you which meal he wants to eat at a restaurant. Write down some ideas in each column on the chart on the next page. Please send it back to us so we can start working on them.

How I want my child to be clear in telling what he thinks and wants: (carefully describe the situation and what you would like to see your child do)	
At home	In the community

Telling about events

When telling about something that happened, your child will learn to include the following:

- Time—when the event happened
- People—who was involved
- Place—where the event took place
- Events—what happened
- Ending—how did it end

This is the same format used in children’s story-books. They often start with “Once upon a time, there was a ..” and end with “And they lived happily ever after.” This is a good basic starting point to help your child remember to include all the important parts of his stories.

