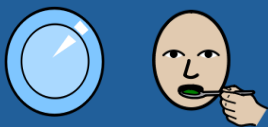




What is an Object of Reference (OOR)?

- It shows what is happening using an object.
- The object is related to an activity, for example a plate may represent mealtime.



Why are we using Objects of Reference?

- They can help your child understand what is happening next.
- Can develop understanding of routines.
- Can develop choice making.
- Can be used in the first step of understanding the meaning of symbols.

How to introduce Objects of Reference

1. Use real objects e.g. show your child a coat before going outside.
2. Be consistent with the objects, try not to swap or change them.
3. Let your child explore the object before taking them to the activity.
4. Keep the object with the child while doing the activity.
5. Put the object away once the activity has finished.
6. It can be useful to keep smaller OOR (e.g. brush, spoon) together in a box.

Activity	Example Object	
Drink	Cup/bottle	
Snack/ mealtime	Plate/bowl/spoon	
Coat/shoes/ outdoor toy	Outside	
Play	Favourite toy	
Bath time	Duck/Boat/Towel	

**Caution:** if your child mouths things, use suitable large objects