

MALAWI LITERACY ACTIVITY #2

FIND WHAT'S MISSING

Description: The child will name items such as kitchen utensils, gardening tools, fruits, vegetables, or school supplies that are present in the home. S/he will observe and memorize their place; the parent will then hide one item, and ask the child to identify which one the parent has hidden.

Preparation

Parent selects five items in the home (common items such as gardening tools, kitchen items, fruits, vegetables, or school supplies). Parent selects an appropriate place to play the game.

Opening Ritual

Parent sings, calls out, as appropriate to context to bring the child(ren)

Parent: Let's go to the special place! *Let the child choose whether to sit or stand. Arrange the items on a table or on the ground where both child and parent can see them.*

Activity [using kitchen utensils as an example]

Parent: This game is called " _____ "

Parent: Can you name these five items we have in the house)?

The child names the items the parent has assembled. If s/he does not know the name of an item, the parent should provide it.

Parent describes one of the items, e.g.:

Parent: This is a pot. It is round and made of metal. We use it to cook.

Parent does the same for the other items: "This is a _____. It is (shape, color]. We use it to _____(or name another attribute of the item).

Parent: Take a good look at the items. You're going to turn around. I'll hide one. When I tell you to turn back, you will guess what has that has disappeared.

The child turns. Parent hides an item behind his/her back.

Parent: Now, turn back and tell me what disappeared.

The child turns and looks at the table and gives the name of the item that has disappeared. If s/he can't then the parent shows the item to him/her, and describes it.

Parent: Yes, this is the pot that disappeared. it is round.

Parent: Can you name more things made of metal that we have in the house? I'll let you think for a moment.

The child names the color and shape etc of the other items.

Parent: Yes, a hoe, a spoon, a bicycle...

Parent arranges the items next to each other.

Parent: Take a good look at these items. Can you name each one beginning with this one (the one furthest to the left). You're going to turn around. I'll put one of the items in a different place. When I tell you to turn back, you will guess what I moved, and put it back in the right place.

The child turns. Parent moves only one item, for example, takes the first kitchen utensil and makes it the last.

Parent: Now, turn around and tell me the name of the thing that moved.

Wërngalu baat yi



Wërngalu baat yi



Wërngalu baat yi



Wërngalu baat yi



The child turns and looks and gives the name of the item that moved. If s/he can't, then show him/her.

Parent: This is the spoon that moved. Can you put it in the right place?

Ending Ritual

Parent: I loved playing this game with you. And you? Did you like this game? Why?

The child gives his/her impressions.

Parent: Does this game remind you of anything? Which memories?

The child speaks of his/her memories.

Parent: Does this game remind you of other games that you have played at school or at home?

The child responds.

Parent: We used kitchen utensils today today. What else could we use to play this game?

The names of animals, toys, objects such as school supplies, kitchen utensils, buttons, pieces of cloth.

Advanced: The child can name the objects and put them in alphabetical order.