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Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale

Education Committee

**5.9 Understanding what things are for**

**Why is this important?  
Children begin to be able to categorise things into groups by learning their  
functions (e.g. things to eat, wear, drive).**

**This also helps acquire more vocabulary.**

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What to do  
• Gather together some familiar toys/objects:  
★ Cup, brush, apple, chair, hat, pencil.  
• Start by putting out two things and ask the child to find an object by its function:  
★ ‘What do we eat?’  
★ ‘What can we sit on?’  
★ ‘What do we wear?’  
N.B. Remember not to look at or point to the object for which you are asking.  
• Guide the child to the right choice if you need to. Repeat the instruction and  
demonstrate the function (e.g. ‘Sit doll on the chair’, ‘Pretend to eat the apple’).**