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Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale

Education Committee

**7.10 Linking sentences using ‘because’**

**Why is this important?  
‘Because’ is one of a range of words used to expand sentences by adding  
information, and in this case, justifying ideas/thoughts/decisions. By using  
words like ‘because’ (e.g. ‘then’, ‘after’, ‘that’) children are able to expand  
their grammatical skills too.**

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What to do  
• Gather some things together, show them to the child and then put them in a bag.  
Ask the child to delve into the bag and guess what he/she can feel. Encourage the child to say why he/she thinks it’s the car/cup, etc.  
★ ‘I think it’s a car because it’s got wheels.’  
★ ‘I think it’s a cup because it’s got a handle.’  
• If the child starts the sentence with ‘because’, prompt him/her to use the first part by starting it for him/her:  
★ Child puts hand in bag and knows it’s a cup.  
★ Child: ‘Cup.’  
★ Adult pauses to wait for further explanation. No response so asks ‘Why do you  
think it’s a cup?’  
★ Child: ‘Because it’s got a handle.’  
★ Adult models first part of sentence (e.g. ‘I think it’s a cup … [pauses]’).  
★ Child completes sentence ‘… a cup because its got a handle.’  
• Set up some simple scenes which will work with ‘why … because’ structures:  
★ ‘Why are we running? … Because we want to catch the bus.’  
★ ‘Why are we putting on coats? … Because it’s cold.’**