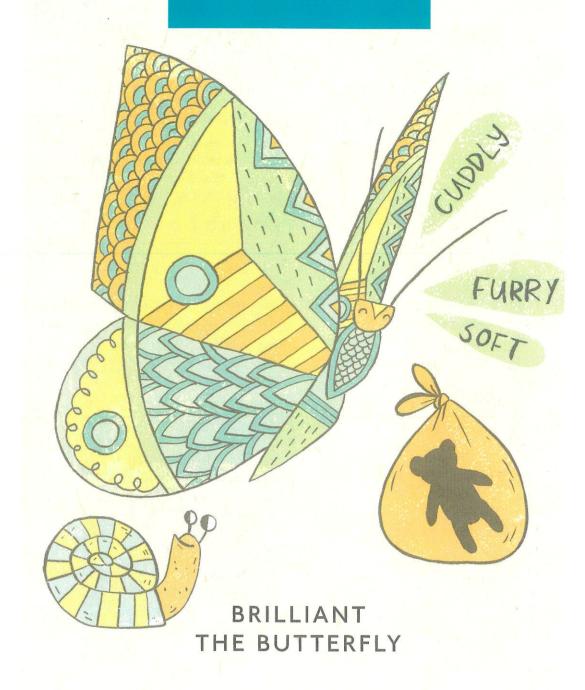
Learning and using new words WHAT'S IN THE BAG?



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THE AIM OF THE GAME

Guess what's in the bag from listening to a description of the object.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

This is a great way for children to learn new words and think of items from a description. The description also helps children develop vocabulary, as giving details of an item helps them store it more easily in the memory.

HOW TO DO IT

Find five or six everyday items or toys. Talk about each one with the child before you put it into the bag. Describe what you do with it, what it feels like, who uses it, etc. When you've talked about each item, put it in a cloth bag or box with a lid.

Once all the items are in the box or bag, take it in turns to reach in, feel an item and describe it. (You go first to show the child what to do.) Can the child guess what's in the bag, or describe it to you?

TOO DIFFICULT?

If the child can't recognise the item from the description, let them see a tiny piece of it so they can name what they see. Seeing more of the item makes it easier, while still keeping the structure of the game.

Having fewer items in the box or bag also makes the activity easier.

TOO EASY?

Clues that are more about texture and shape make this game more challenging. Save the clues about what you do with the item until last.

Chatting with Children