

# Introduction

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Just for Kids Elementary Photo Cards features 360 pictures of familiar scenes and objects from home and school to address a wide range of language skills. Whether you're working with students individually or in groups, these photographs and stimulus items allow you to create flexible therapy sessions that meet your students' goals.

## Scenes

The scenes consist of simple three-step sequences (e.g., girl getting soap, lathering soap on hands, drying hands) and stand-alone scenes (e.g., boy holding a puppy). The scenes present routine activities your students will easily relate to, such as reading a bedtime story, making a sandwich, and taking a test. Using pictures of everyday scenes allows students to activate their own knowledge of engaging in the same activities. This familiarity not only reduces students' apprehension of talking about what is happening in the pictures, but it motivates students to share their own experiences in similar situations. Stimulating spontaneous conversation provides opportunities to practice a variety of language skills.

The card backs include stimulus items for making inferences, narration, predicting, reasoning, and sequencing. You can also ask students to focus on different skills while describing cards, such as using sequencing or descriptive words or creating dialogue for the people in the pictures. Work on as many or as few of these skills as needed to meet your therapy goals, or create your own questions.

## Objects

The object pictures encompass categories such as food, household items, school items, clothes, appliances, electronics, and musical instruments. These cards provide excellent visuals for helping students improve their basic vocabulary knowledge. Stimulus items ask students to make associations between words, describe attributes, and compare and contrast two words. The more ways you can help students reason and talk about words, the better their working vocabulary will become. Focusing on vocabulary in this way is especially helpful for children who have word retrieval deficits or difficulty with verbal reasoning.

Here are some suggested ways to use the object cards in therapy:

- Show two or more picture cards to a student and ask her to choose the one that has a given attribute or function or one that belongs to a specific category.
- Ask a student to pick a card and identify an attribute, function, or category.
- Ask students to pick cards and ask each other questions about an object until they guess the object (e.g., Can you plug it in/throw it/wear it?, Is it made of wood/plastic/rubber?).
- Choose several cards and help students group them into different categories based on attributes, functions, or categories (e.g., baseball bat can be grouped with items that are hard, items made of wood, or sports equipment).

*Just for Kids Elementary Photo Cards* is a great resource that students will find interesting and you will find versatile. When addressing language skills, there is no substitute for effective visual aids to supplement instruction.