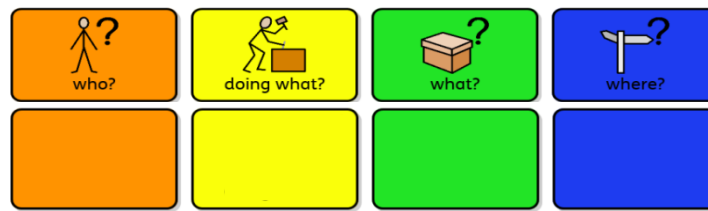


Colourful Semantics



What is colourful semantics?

Colourful semantics is a colour coding system aimed to develop grammar by linking the structure of a sentence and its meaning (semantics).

Why use colourful semantics?

- Encouraging wider vocabulary
- Making sentences longer
- Helps children to answer questions or generate responses to questions
- Developing use of nouns, verbs, prepositions and adjectives
- Improves story telling skills
- Can be transferred to written sentences and written language comprehension

What do the colours represent?

Each colour represents a word meaning.

- Orange= 'who' (all nouns)
- Yellow= 'doing what?' (verbs)
- Green= 'what' (object)
- Blue= 'where' (location)

How to use colourful semantics?

- Depending on the child, different sentence strips will be provided.
- Your child may only be using the first two strips (i.e. who and doing what?) or the first three (i.e. who, doing what and with what?) etc... Please speak to your speech and language therapist for more information regarding the level your child is on.

When using colourful semantics:

- 'Who' is introduced first; and we talk about who is in the picture.
 - 'Who is this?' (point to the noun)
- Next moving onto 'doing what?'; and we talk about what they are doing
 - 'doing what?'
- Following this, is 'what?'; that is, identifying the object/thing that is in the picture
 - 'With what?' (you might need to point and direct your child to the object/thing in the picture)
- And then 'where?'; talk about/label the location.
 - 'Where are they?' (you might need to point and direct your child to the background/location in the picture)
- Model back the sentence created to your child. Your child may only say the key words in the picture and not repeat back a grammatically correct sentence. That is okay. You can then repeat the sentence back to them with correct grammar without the pressure of them having to say it back correctly.

Useful link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17smjL8Y21s>

Be creative! It is a very versatile approach that can be used in many different activities and situations to support development of expressive language.