

## Activity 4 – Word recognition

### Go on a high frequency/key word treasure hunt

#### What to do

- Write 10-20 words on your searchable objects. If you don't have key words provided by your school, you can choose from this [list](#).\* The idea is to include 80% words which your child can read easily (recognise by sight) and 20% which they are learning.
- Hide the words around the home/garden and start the hunt. Each time your child finds a word they can only pick it up once they have read it aloud. If they can't read a word, tell them what it is and re-hide it to be found again in a moment.
- You can repeat this game, gradually swapping in new words as your child becomes more confident. Keep word number manageable to keep it fun.

#### Extension

Challenge your child to set up the hunt for you. They are in charge of reading each word as you find it.  
Choose some new words on a topic which your child is interested, e.g. animals, vehicles, etc.

#### What you need

High frequency words/key words\* written on objects you can hide, e.g. *card rectangles, lolly sticks, pebbles, gold coins (paper disks painted), plastic egg shapes, etc.*

house

there

little

**Avoid the temptation to turn this into a lengthy test.**  
These words are usually learnt over the year in Reception. Rushing to 'tick them off' risks damaging confidence and enthusiasm – these are hard to regain.

#### Questions to ask

Which words do you know already?  
Which are a bit tricky at the moment?  
Can you find the words?  
How many can we find in 3 minutes?  
Do you know what this one says?  
Look at it now. Will you recognise it when you find it next?  
What words could we put on the cards next?

First 100 High Frequency Words <http://www.highfrequencywords.org/first-100-high-frequency-word-list-precursive.html>

Next 100 High Frequency Words <http://www.highfrequencywords.org/next-200-high-frequency-word-list-precursive.html>