

## Language for Thinking

For the majority of children developing verbal reasoning skills comes naturally, while others may find it more of a challenge. Language for thinking (Parsons & Branagan, 2005) has been specifically created to teach and develop children's language from the abstract to the concrete.

## What is Language for Thinking?

Language for Thinking is an approach aimed at supporting the development of higher level language skills. The approach is based around 50 verbal and picture scenarios that can be used with a wide range children, of varying ages and abilities. Above all, the approach is practical to use not only in the classroom but with children on an individual basis too.

The question sheets have been carefully structured to improve a child's development in terms of verbal reasoning and thinking skills. The parallel assessments of written and spoken language can be used to assess each child on an individual basis. Therefore, each child will start at the right level for them, with their progress being monitored by worksheets and score forms.

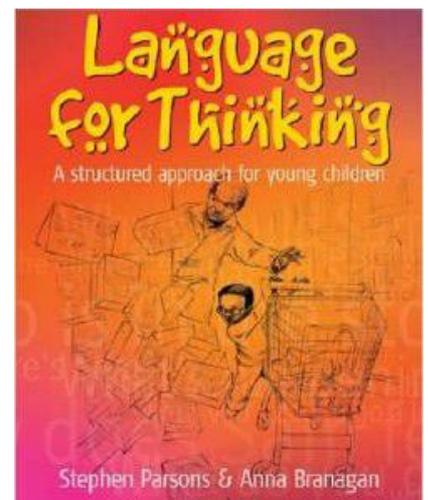
The skills which a child can gain include:

- Improved verbal reasoning skills;
- Improved thinking skills;
- Develop language skills;
- Improved spoken & written language.

## Why use Language for Thinking?

There are a range of benefits to using this approach, including (but not limited to):

- Improving verbal reasoning skills;
- Improving spoken language;
- Improving written language;
- Improving reading.



## Who can benefit from Language for Thinking?

The approach can be used with children with:

- Delayed language skills;
- Autistic Spectrum Conditions (Asperger's Syndrome);
- Pragmatic Language Impairment;
- Moderate Learning Difficulties.

## Who can deliver Language for Thinking?

This approach can be delivered by a range of professionals working with children who have Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), including school staff and family members that have been trained in the approach by a Speech and Language Therapist.

## Evidence for Language for Thinking

Language for Thinking is an approach extensively used in practice. The approach has demonstrated positive outcomes for children in currently unpublished research.

## References

Parsons, S. & Branagan, A. (2005). Language for Thinking: a structured approach for young children. Milton Keynes, UK: Speechmark.