

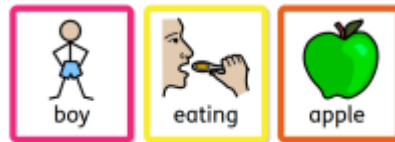
Language Through Colour (LTC) - A Parent Guide

What is Language Through Colour (LTC)?

Language Through Colour (LTC) is a whole-school approach that uses colours to represent different types of words and question words. The approach was first developed by a Speech and Language Therapist to support children who found language processing challenging. It is now widely used in schools to benefit all learners.

It helps children:

- Understand what questions are asking
- Build clear sentences
- Develop vocabulary
- Improve reading comprehension
- Plan and edit their writing



LTC provides a visual prompt, which supports children in processing and organising language.

Why do we use visual supports?

Children often find visual information easier to remember than spoken words alone. When we speak, words disappear quickly. A visual cue, such as a colour, stays in front of a child for as long as they need it.

Visual prompts:

- Stay visible for as long as a child needs them
- Help children process and remember information
- Support independence
- Reduce cognitive overload

Why use colour coding?

Each word group (word class) is linked to a specific colour.

This helps children:

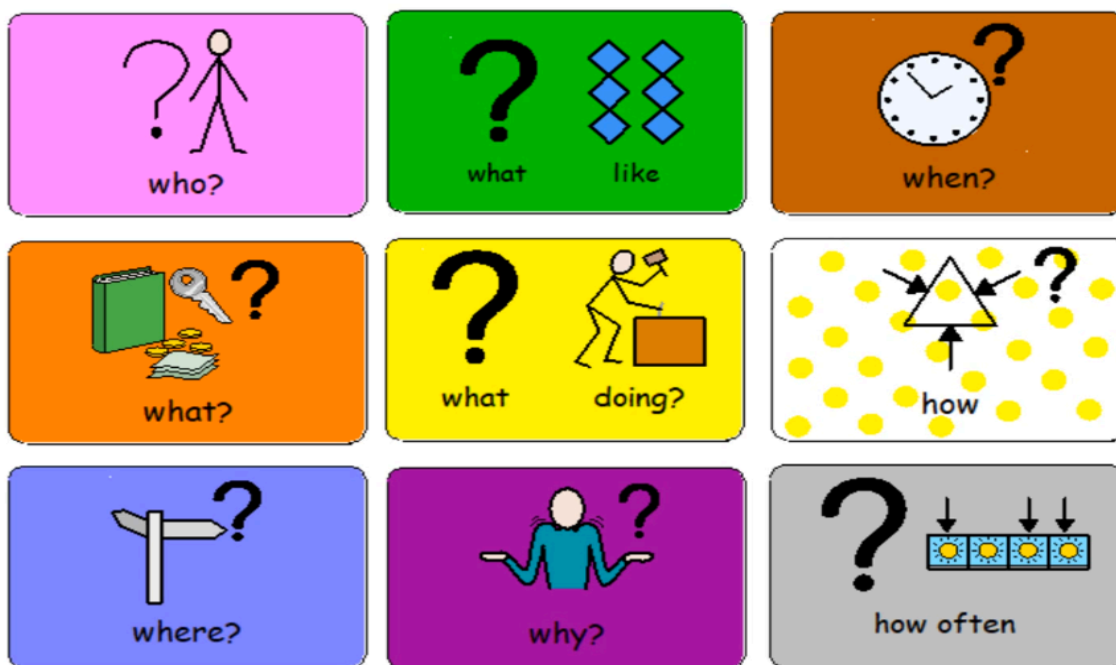
- Identify different types of words
- Understand sentence structure
- Learn new vocabulary more effectively
- Check and improve their own writing

For example, children can see if they:

- Have included enough describing words
- Have clearly explained when and where something happened
- Have answered all parts of a question

How does LTC work?

Each word group (word class) is linked to a specific colour. By consistently seeing these colour links, children begin to recognise patterns in language. This strengthens their vocabulary, comprehension and sentence-building skills.



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How Can I Use LTC at Home?

You can support your child by using LTC prompts when reading together.

Try asking:

- “Who is this about?”
- “Where is this happening?”
- “How is the character feeling?”
- “Why do you think that happened?”
- “What do you think will happen next?”

You can also:

- Encourage your child to expand short answers
- - Instead of: “The dog ran.”
 - Try: “The small brown dog ran quickly across the wet field because it was scared.”

Where can I find out more about LTC?

To find out more information about supporting school age language development and LTC, please visit <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/childrens-therapies-the-pod/speech-and-language-therapy/school-aged-language/>

Makaton Signs

Some children benefit from having signing alongside spoken language and visual prompts. Below are the Makaton signs which are used to support LTC.

