



Objects of Reference

Objects of reference represent an activity, person or place. They support communication and understanding and can be used in conjunction with words and symbols as appropriate. They are particularly useful for children and young people who need more support to understand spoken language.

An example from
Heatherwood School:



The syringe is the object of reference accompanied by a sound button, word and symbol.

Examples:

| Object of reference | Activity |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Soap | Wash hands for snack time |
| Teddy | Nap time |
| Coat | Break time |
| Nappy | Personal care time |
| Backpack | Home time |
| Visual timer | Activity is coming to an end |

Resources:

[Objects-of-Reference.pdf \(leicspart.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Objects of reference - Sense](#)

[objects of reference \(oxfordhealth.nhs.uk\)](#)