

# Past Tense – Regular Verbs

A verb is an *action* or *doing* word such as walk, sleep or give. Regular verbs all follow the rule that, when you are talking about something that has already happened, you add 'ed' to the end. For example:

Present Tense: I am jumping.

Past Tense: I jumped.

Examples of regular verbs include: walk, paint, play, cook, bake, dress, fix, hunt, look, kick, laugh, listen, answer, talk, hug, open, close, stop.

## Activities for working on Regular Verbs

- Simon Says: Give an instruction such as 'Simon says cook the dinner'. Once your child has acted out your instruction, ask them what they did – 'I cooked the dinner'. Emphasise using 'ed' at the end of the verb.
- Photos: Take a photo of your child doing (or pretending to do) an activity, such as painting or kicking a ball. Show them the photo and ask them what they did – 'I painted'; 'I kicked the ball'.
- Today-Yesterday: Make up a sentence about what you are doing today and then ask your child to say they did it yesterday. E.g. 'Today I am fixing my bike'...'Yesterday I fixed my bike'.
- Pairs: Have two sets of picture cards (e.g. two pictures of people jumping, two pictures of people laughing). Place them face down on the table. Take it in turns to turn over two pictures. As you turn over the pictures say what the people *did*. E.g. 'The boy listened to the radio'. If you find two matching pictures you win these.
- Turn Taking Games: Play a simple game such as Jenga or Snakes & Ladders. Before each turn look at an action picture and say what the person *did*. E.g. 'She hugged her dad'; 'The dog licked the boy's face'.

## Tips for Working on the Past Tense (Regular Verbs):

- Focus on just 1-2 verbs at a time.
- If your child makes a mistake, model what they should have said.
- Use everyday opportunities to practice using regular verbs. For example, after going to the park you could say 'We played at the park' and 'We walked home'.