

# Pronouns – He, She, They

Pronouns are the words we use to refer to people, animals or things. For example, *I, me, you, we, he, she, they, it*.

We use pronouns so we don't have to keep repeating a person's name, or the name of the animal or object we are talking about. For example, rather than saying 'I saw Sam this morning. Sam was with Sam's sister' we can say 'I saw Sam this morning. *He* was with *his* sister'.

Sometimes children with speech and language difficulties confuse pronouns. For example, they may refer to everyone they meet as 'he' or say things such as '*her* went to the park'.

When working on pronouns make sure your child first understands the words *boy* and *girl*. Then introduce *he, she* and *they*.

Explain that:

- Sometimes we call a boy *he*.
- Sometimes we call a girl *she*.
- Sometimes we say *they*.
  - *They* can be used to refer to one person.
  - *They* is also used when talking about more than one person.

## Activities for Working on Pronouns

Use everyday opportunities to model the use of pronouns. For example, if your child incorrectly refers to a girl as 'he' model saying 'she' or 'they' instead.

- Dressing Up: Have a picture of a boy and a girl and some cut out clothes. Tell your child which person wants each item of clothing. For example, *he* wants the stripy trousers; *she* wants the spotty trousers.
- Who is...?: Have pictures of people doing different activities, such as riding a bike, playing football or cooking, laid out on the table. Say what one of the people are doing and see if your child can find the right picture. For example, *they* are eating cake; *she* is jumping on the trampoline.
- Pairs: Use two sets of pictures showing people doing different activities or showing different emotions. Place the pictures face down on the table and mix them up. Take turns to turn over two pictures and say what is on the picture. For example, *he* is sad; *they* are happy. When you find a matching pair of pictures you win these. The person with the most matching pairs is the winner.