Vocabulary Games

- **Category Ball**
  Pass a ball between you/around the group. Each time you have the ball you must name an item that belongs to a given category. You cannot repeat a word. For example: fruit – apple, pear, cherry…

- **One Minute**
  Name as many items as possible that belong to a given category in just one minute. For example: sports, countries, colours, professions.

- **What am I? / Who am I?**
  Easy: Place several pictures on the table and begin describing one of them. See if your child can work out which picture you are describing.
  Harder: Think of a word belonging to a given category (e.g. animals, famous people). Begin describing the word and see if your child can work out what or who you are describing.

- **Odd One Out**
  Say four words and see if your child can identify which is the odd one out. For example: dog, horse, *fish*, sheep.

- **Bingo**
  Make up bingo cards with pictures or words on them. Read out a definition and if you have that picture/word on your bingo card you can cover that space. For example: 'It's a place you go to buy food' – 'Supermarket'. The first person to cover their card wins.

- **No, No, No**
  Write a sentence on a piece of paper or whiteboard. E.g. 'I like eating green bananas'. Take it in turns to say 'no, no, no' and then change one word in the sentence. E.g. I *hate* eating green bananas…I hate eating *mouldy* bananas…I hate eating mouldy *grapes*.

- **What's the Link?**
  Have a pile of pictures of everyday objects. Choose one at random. Then choose another picture and say how they link together. For example, your first picture may be a dog. You could link a picture of a horse to the dog because they are both animals, or you may choose a picture of a bowl because dogs eat from bowls.

- **Opposites**
  Challenge each other to think of words with opposite meanings. For example, hot – cold, long – short, dirty – clean.

- **Synonym Snap**
  Write down words with the same/similar meanings (e.g. small - tiny, smart – clever, laugh – giggle) and then cut them out. Place the words face down on the table and mix them up. Take turns to turn over two words at a time. If you find a pair with the same meaning you win those words.