

Do as bossy Boo Cat says

This activity encourages children to use simple sentences to tell others what to do. It's also great fun.

Setting up

Prepare a set of picture cards by cutting up the *Do as bossy Boo Cat says* sheets. These cards show actions like touch your nose, run to the window or wiggle your foot. Explain that Boo is feeling very bossy today. Take one of the picture cards yourself. 'Bossy Boo Cat says sit on the floor.' Sit on the floor, as instructed.



Playing the game

Ask a child to pick a card. Get them to pass on the instruction to another member of the group. For example: 'Bossy Boo Cat says walk to the door.'

Make it harder

You can get the children to use longer sentences by having them include an extra description. Here are some examples.

Bossy Boo Cat says:

- Touch your nose with your thumb
- Walk to the door quickly
- Jump up and down four times
- Sit on the floor and keep still



'I can make a sentence AND tell people what to do!'

Taking it further

When they're ready, the children will be able to think of their own bossy Boo Cat instructions without the help of cards.

Variations

You can turn the activity into a dressing-up game. Prepare a collection of clothes, including items like hats, scarves, socks, trousers, belts, sunglasses, watch, rings, shoes, and so on.

In the basic version of the dressing-up game, make sure some of the instructions are unexpected (like 'Put the tie on your leg.'). This will make sure the children think about the instructions rather than carry them out automatically. As an extension to this version, get the children to add another detail such as:

- Put the woolly hat on your hand
- Put the stripey scarf on your head
- Put the blue sock on your nose