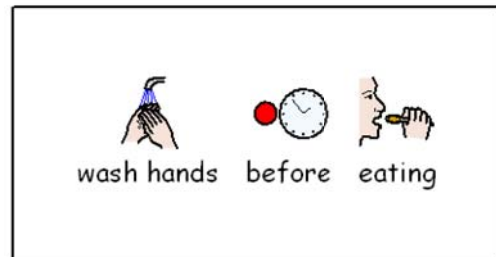
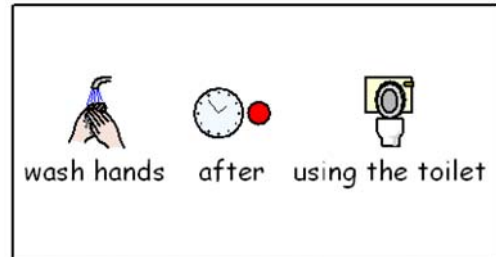


Ideas for using the Symbol cards

routines

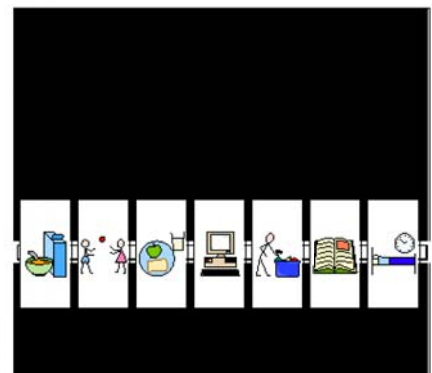
behaviour



school days



shopping



trips

personal hygiene

This pack is freely photocopyable within Warwickshire



Symbols Inclusion Project: Symbols at Home

The materials in this pack have been developed by Warwickshire IDS and Widgit Software.

The symbols are © Widgit Software 2009

Symbols at Home Pack

Symbols give a picture clue for words and phrases.

This can be useful for very young children who have problems understanding or remembering what words mean, or for those where English is a second language.

Using symbols for labels and simple instructions gives a visual reminder to use alongside language.

Symbols can help make the link between real objects and words.

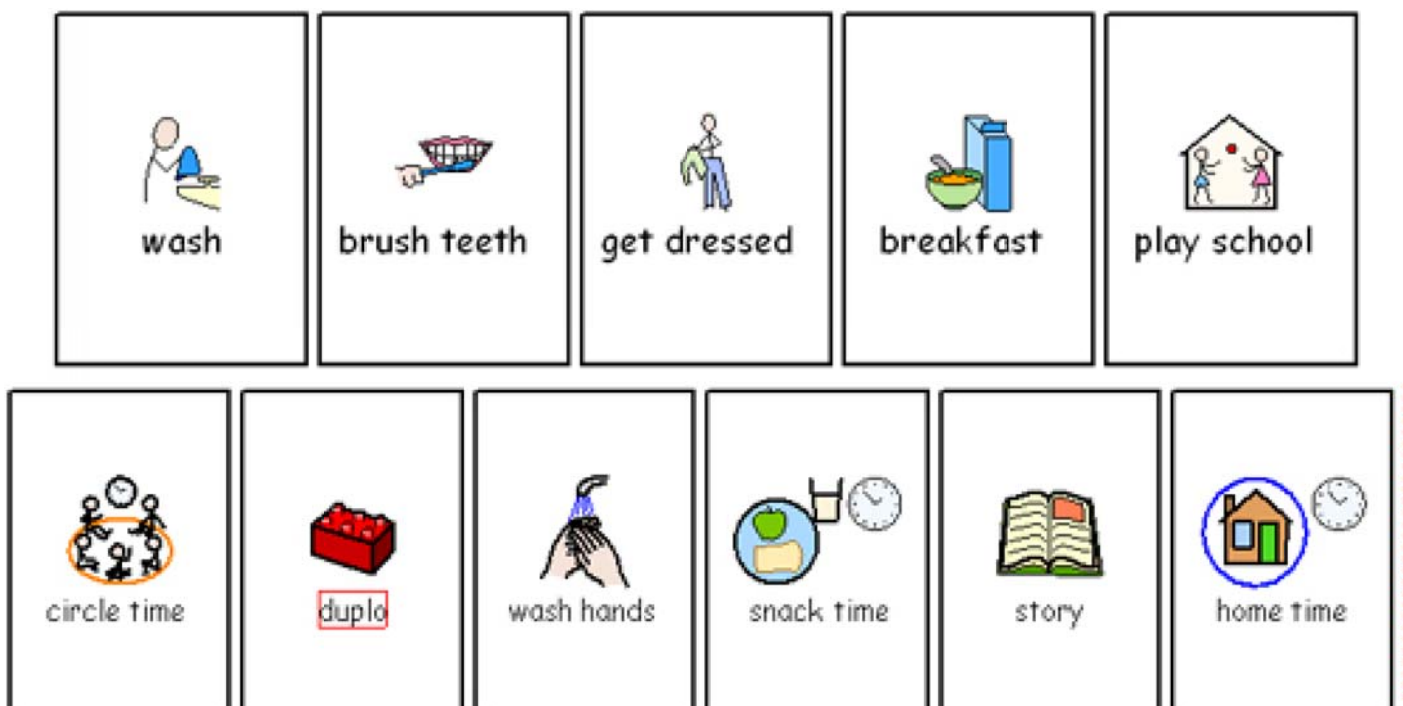
This pack contains small cards with words and symbols.

The pack includes a large range of symbol cards which can be used in many different ways.

This booklet contains ideas on how to use the symbol cards.

Supporting Independence

Visual timetables are about more than what is happening next. They can help children understand what is happening and how time is passing.



Managing behaviour

Holding up a symbol card to reinforce a spoken instruction or request, can help children fully understand what behaviour is required.



Labelling

Labelling activity boxes makes it easier for children to find what they need.

Labelling areas helps children to organise themselves.



Feelings and emotions

Some children may not have the language to explain how they are feeling. Symbol cards will help them to express this.



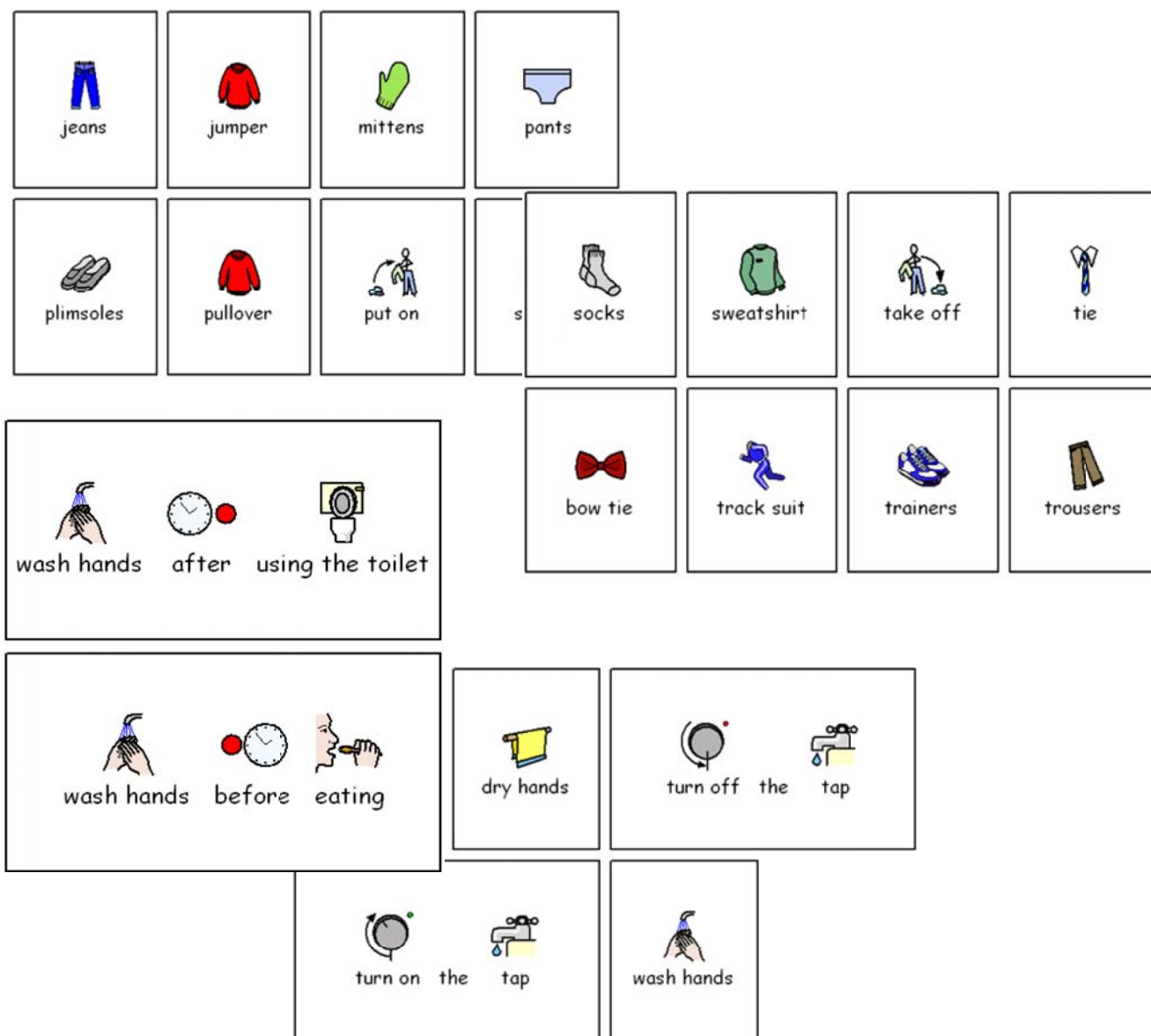
Meal times

Organisation at mealtimes is made much easier with the addition of symbol cards.



Dressing and washing

Some children find it difficult to organise themselves when getting dressed or washing hands. Symbol cards can be used for sequencing both these routines.



We have made the following symbol cards which can be easily altered in the Widgit Software program, Communicate: In Print.

The Communicate: In Print manual gives a basic tutorial in using the program, printing tips etc and is supplied when you buy the program.

It is also available from within the program and is found in the 'Help' section on the top toolbar once the program is opened.

Printing tips can also be found at the end of this booklet.

Symbol cards included in the pack

01 ideas for using symbols cards

Booklet of ideas on how to use the symbol cards

02 feelings and emotions

28 symbol cards to express feelings and emotions

03 numbers

24 symbol cards, numbers 1-20 plus extra

04 playing

51 symbol cards to use during play

05 playgroup

40 symbol cards which may be used to discuss playgroup

06 safety

14 symbol cards to discuss features of safety

07 shopping

66 symbol cards which may be used when going shopping

08 colours

13 symbol cards showing the most common colours

09 times of the day

21 symbol cards showing different times of the day

10 days of the week

13 symbol cards showing the days of the week, plus extra

11 meal time

41 symbol cards to use during mealtimes

12 behaviour

11 symbol cards which may help to promote good behaviour

13 food and drink

80 food and drink symbol cards

14 recycling

14 recycling symbol cards

15 activity labels

23 symbol cards which may be used to label boxes or for routines

16 wash hands sequence

7 symbol cards to use to sequence washing hands

17 notices

10 symbol cards for labelling areas and rooms

18 transport

19 symbol cards showing different modes of transport

19 dressing up

39 symbol cards to use when dressing up

20 getting dressed

38 symbol cards to label clothes or to help with dressing

21 places to go

22 symbol cards showing places to go, plus how to get there

Practical Tips

Choose the required symbol cards from the pack.

Cut out and laminate, or use sticky back plastic.

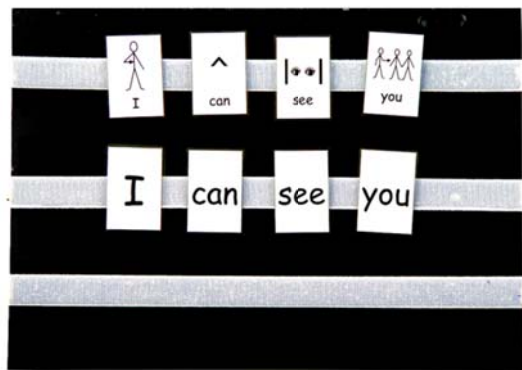
Print onto thin card if laminate or sticky back plastic is not available.

(For laminated or plastic covered cards)

Attach velcro to laminated base board and on to the backs of cards.

Use to sequence a typical day at home or for planning outings.

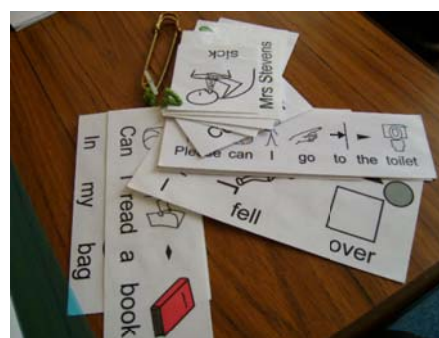
Cards can be removed by user after each activity is done.



Symbol cards sequencing simple sentences used in schools



**Store symbol cards by category
and then only one board is needed**



**Thread onto cord or ribbon
for individual use or pin
together**



Symbol cards sequencing how to make ginger bread biscuits.

The symbol cards may be used in many different ways. Visual timetables or routine boards are simple to make. They give structure to the day and can reduce anxiety levels. Can be used to demonstrate what needs to be done first, next etc. Users can be encouraged to remove each card when the task has been completed.



Symbol cards sequencing weekly timetable.

Printing tips

To find the files for printing you will need to:

Click on

File/Open Shared/Widgit resources folder/Symbols at home folder

To get the correct size cards you will need to print as single sided sheets. (See below)

If smaller cards are required then you will need to print as a book.

(Note) The order of the pages will be different.

Additional printing tips can be found in the Communicate: In Print manual which can be found by clicking on 'Help' (Top toolbar)

