

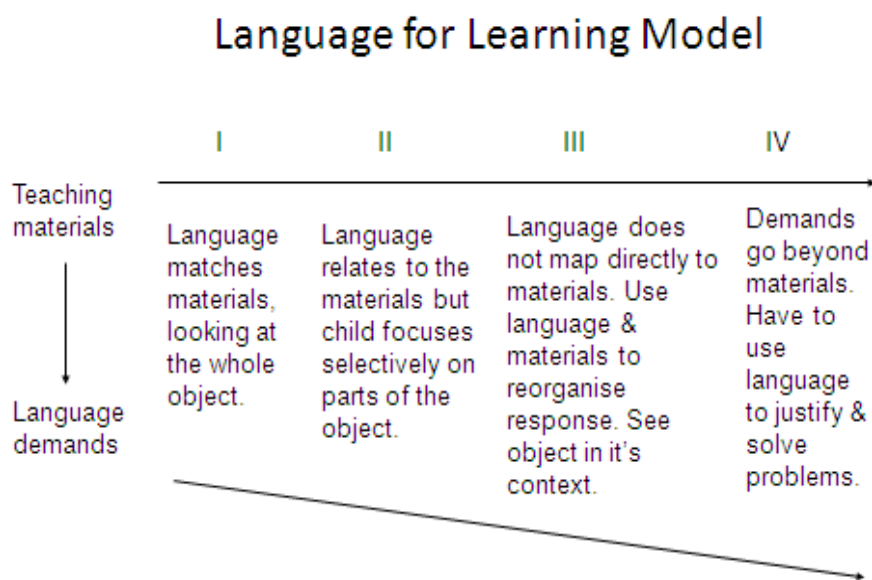
# Early Years Communication and Language Development Service – Blank Language for Learning Model and Story Telling

In the recent Communication Champion briefing we discussed the use of the Blank Language for Learning model and applied this to story time. A brief overview of the Blank model was provided at the briefing along with example questions at each level. The practitioners at the briefing have begun to develop a bank of questions for popular stories which can be accessed here.

If you wish to learn more about this model, this can be gained through accessing additional training. Please contact us at [eyclids@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:eyclids@bolton.gov.uk) or on 01204 338182 for further information.

What is the Blank Language for Learning model?

- It is a framework which considers different levels of questioning and a child's understanding ability. The Blank Language Scheme was developed in the 1970s by Australian educationalists (Blank, Rose & Berlin, 1978). They studied the language of the classroom and identified four levels of questioning graded in order of abstractness. The model breaks down a quite complex area of language processing into four stages. It is a helpful model to use when considering a child's ability to understand instructions/questions and when differentiating activities.



Elkon  
© Liz Ellis and Henrietta McLachlan

19

- In terms of typical development , 60% of 3 year olds understand level 1 and level 2 questions and 65% of 5 year olds understand level 3 and level 4 questions.