



Words to disagree

Words to disagree are important for adults *and* children. We use words such as *not*, *don't*, *doesn't*, and *won't* to express our needs, wants and preferences to others.

To help children use words to disagree in sentences, you can:

Model words to disagree in your own sentences, and

Repeat words to disagree often in your play together.

Play with words to disagree: Use words to disagree in your play together



Play... with a puzzle

Sit down with a puzzle together. Talk about pieces that *won't* fit. Give your child time to make a sentence.

You: That piece *doesn't* go there! It *won't* fit! I'll try it here.
(pause and wait)

Child: It *won't* fit!



At home... sorting the washing

When you are sorting the washing, use *not* in short sentences to talk about the clothes that belong to another family member.

You: That shirt's *not* mine. That singlet's *not* mine. These jeans *aren't* yours!



Out and about...at the shops

Prepare a grocery list together. Walk around the kitchen, and use *don't* in sentences to talk about what you already have.

You: We *don't* need apples. We *don't* need cheese.

Child: We *don't* need bananas.



Words to disagree

Read with words to disagree: Visit the library and borrow some books

Don't Call Me Bear by Aaron Blabey

That's Not My Monster by Fiona Watt

Do Not Open this Book by Andy Lee

Words to disagree: Use these words in your day

Different words to disagree include:

Easier words: *no, not*

Harder words: *don't, won't, wasn't, can't, didn't, doesn't*

Hardest words: *shouldn't, couldn't, wouldn't*

Learn about words to disagree: Ways to help language grow

When you **model words to disagree in your own sentences**, you are:

- Using the words in a way that makes sense to children, and
- Helping them to use **words to disagree**.

When you **repeat words to disagree** often in your play together, you are:

- Giving children lots of opportunities to hear the words, and
- Showing them how the words are used in a meaningful way.

Children do not have to repeat words after you. The more often children hear **words to disagree** in sentences as part of their day, the more likely they will understand new words and use them in their own talking.

Speech pathology key terms: negation, focussed stimulation, modelling.