

Fact sheet:

Word finding problems

Word finding problems are when you know what you want to say but having trouble thinking of the correct word.

The following strategies may be useful in order to assist in "finding" the right word
For example – if you want to say the word "book"

- Point to the book if you can
- Show the action of how you would use it i.e. pretending to open a book and read
- Describe what you do with it. i.e. "you read it"
- Describe where you would find it. I.e. "it's in the library".
- Say the first letter of the word. i.e. "It starts with a B".
- Write down the word or spell it out loud. i.e. B –O- O- K
- Think of another word that means the same. i.e. "It's like a magazine".
- Draw a picture of it

How will these tips help?

They will make it easier for you to say the word yourself.
They will also help others to say the word you want to say.

What can other people do to help?

Ask the person to try using some of the above tips.
Be patient.

More information

More information is available at Benalla Health.
Phone (03) 5761 4500 and ask to speak to a speech pathologist.