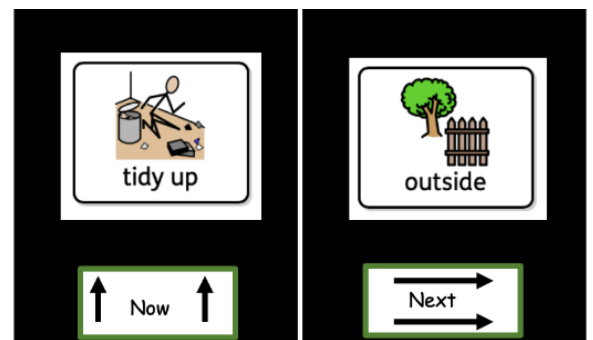


Speech and Language Therapy

Now and Next Visuals

What is Now and Next Visual?

Now and Next visual helps can be used to help children with attention, understanding of transition and routine. It is important to use now and next cards for children that have difficulties understanding transitions, may not enjoy particularly activities or can become frustrated when favourite/motivating activity are about to finish.



You may also hear them being called 'first and then' boards. Some children may also have 'now-next-then' boards depending on their level of understanding.



Benefits of Now and Next visual

- ✓ It helps children to understand what will happen next. The visual information is important to support children who have language difficulties or those who may not understand spoken language to understand plans.
- ✓ It helps children to understand situations by reinforcing what has been said.
- ✓ It can help children who have working memory or auditory difficulty to revise information.

How to use the Now and Next board?

Resources needed: The activity requires a range of symbols or pictures related to the child's routine along with a 'now' and 'next' board.

Now	Next

1. Place the appropriate symbol onto the 'Now' section to reflect what the child is currently doing.
(Example script: Now it's counting time- an activity that the child needs to do)
2. Place the appropriate symbol onto the 'Next' section to identify what will happen next.
(Example script: Next it's choosing time- a motivating/rewarding activity)
3. Encourage the child to pay attention to the visual when you place the symbol on the Now and Next visual table.
4. When the child finish with the activity, inform the child 'finished' and encourage the child to take the symbol or picture off the 'Now' section and move the visual on the 'Next' visual onto the 'Now' column.
5. Add another symbol/picture onto the 'Next' column and repeat the process.

Tips:

- ✓ Ensure you have the visual in eyesight of the child at all times i.e. on the table or the wall above.
- ✓ Ensure to gain the child's attention in some way so they are aware the activity is about to finish.
- ✓ If the child needs a visual count down, use timer alongside the Now and Next visual, e.g., 5 mins for 'Now' activity, when the timer beeps, the activity is finished, and the child should move on to the 'Next' activity.

Resources

The therapy service can provide you with a pack to get started with 'now/next' using board maker software. If you would prefer a different format, you can also find 'now/next' on the following website:

- ✓ **Twinkl:** [Printable Now and Next Board | Twinkl Inclusion - Twinkl](#)
- ✓ **TES:** ['Now, Next, Then' Visual Task Board | Teaching Resources](#)
- ✓ **Leeds Mencap:** [Now & Next Boards - Leeds Mencap](#)

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Children's Therapy Services
Speech and Language Therapy
Princess Royal Community Health Centre

Telephone: 01484 344299

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce,
obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych
informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej,
prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww.
danych kontaktowych

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ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

"إذا احتجت الحصول على هذه المعلومة بشكل مغاير أو مترجمة إلى لغة مختلفة فيرجى منك الاتصال بالقسم
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