

# Present information in different ways

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8' from the Guide: [Speech, Language and Communication](#)

- 
- Includes:**
- Promote understanding of spoken language
  - Give instructions in close proximity
  - Take a multi-sensory approach
  - Use video and multi-sensory resources
  - Support understanding with visuals
  - Use concrete materials

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From

Guide: [Speech, Language and Communication](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8](#)

Suggestion: [Present information in different ways](#)

Date

05 June 2026

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/speech-language-and-communication/1-8-present-information-in-different-ways](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/speech-language-and-communication/1-8-present-information-in-different-ways)

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## Promote understanding of spoken language

Help students with speech, language and communication needs to understand spoken content and follow verbal instructions.

To support understanding:

- use fewer words or signs
- speak or sign more slowly
- give students more time to process what they hear and see
- use supporting gestures, visuals and symbols when possible
- connect new vocabulary to familiar vocabulary
- teach and support understanding of new terms, and provide simple child-friendly definitions
- communicate using the student's primary communication system whenever possible. For example, use AAC, point to select, coreboard symbols or NZSL
- make connections to, or use, languages spoken at home.

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## Give instructions in close proximity



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## Take a multi-sensory approach

Offer students multiple opportunities to build understanding using all their senses.

- ✓ Offer real experiences, physical activity, and manipulables to support understanding.
- ✓ Support text and spoken information with photos, graphics, audio, and video.
- ✓ Present digital text rather than printed text so that students can personalise it by enlarging it or listening to it.
- ✓ Use online tools such as Google Slides or blogs to bring multimedia together, so students have content options presented in different media all in one place (for example, a YouTube video, a graphic and some text).
- ✓ Make instructions, demonstrations, or key content rewindable and accessible 24/7.

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## Use video and multi-sensory resources

Use a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) approach to offer students multiple representations of information and multiple ways to demonstrate learning.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/100662379>

Closed Captions

Source:

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<http://vimeo.com/album/2950799>

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## Support understanding with visuals

### Making a banana smoothie

1. Collect ingredients  
A visual sequence showing the ingredients for a smoothie: a yellow banana, a plus sign, a white plastic bottle of milk with a blue label that says 'MILK', another plus sign, and a white plate with several pieces of fruit.
2. Blend ingredients together  
A simple illustration of a silver and blue blender.
3. Drink your smoothie  
A simple illustration of a red cup with a yellow straw.

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## Use concrete materials



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