Activities for Improving Word Retrieval:

Fill in the Blank Associations

Write a word in each blank that completes the phrase. The word must make sense in the phrase. If your child cannot read or write, say these out loud and have your child say a word that could fill in the blank.

- A pair of _____
- Peanut butter and _____
- Close the _____
- Elephants live in the _____
- Head, Shoulders, Knees, and _____
- Run away from _____
- Bread and _____
- Socks and _____
- Out to _____
- Slip and _____
- Over the _____
- Give me _____
- Help me_____
- Where's my _____
- Follow the _____
- Take me _____
- Eat your _____
- Please and _____
- Coat and _____
- Shirt and _____
- Play with _____
- Simon says _____
- Drain the _____
- Push the _____
- Ring around the _____
- Fun and _____
- Ride the _____
- Show me _____
- Don't wake _____
- Hold your _____
- Eat and _____
- Throw the _____
- Hammer and _____

Extra Practice:

Help your child practice these types of fill-in-the blanks at other times as well. You can say some of these while waiting in a line or driving in the car. The more you do this, the faster his word retrieval will become!

Improving Word Retrieval Skills

Rapid Naming from Categories

Have your child name as many things from each of these categories as she can. Make sure she does it as quickly as she can as well. Time her to see how fast she can come up with 10 items. When you've used all of these categories, try asking about other categories as well.

Vehicles

Foods

Clothes

Drinks

Toys

Body Parts

Actions

Furniture

Extra Practice:

Continue to ask your child to do this throughout the week. You can try this activity while waiting somewhere or on a long car ride. Make it a family game and have everyone try. Have your child choose a category for you to name 10 items from as well.

Activities for Improving Word Retrieval:

Provide a Word from a Definition

Write a word in each blank that fits the definition provided. The word must make sense with the definition. If your child cannot read or write, say these out loud and have your child say a word that could fill in the blank. Time how long it takes your child to do 10 of these. Then, see if your child can beat his record next time.

- A red and juicy fruit that is often made into juice or sauce. _____
- An animal whose hair is made into clothing and who needs to be sheared. _____
- Something green that grows outside and needs to be mowed regularly. _____
- A place where children play outside during school. _____
- Something you wear on your hands to keep you warm when it's cold outside. _____
- An eating utensil that has three or four tines so you can pick up pieces of food better. _____
- An animal that lives at the zoo and has a very long neck. _____
- Something you use to spread paint onto paper. _____
- What you put under your head at night when you sleep. _____
- Something that flies in the air while being attached to a string that you hold. _____
- An animal that lives on the farm and lays eggs. _____
- A place where you wash your dishes. _____
- A vehicle that flies in the sky and has two large wings that stick out on either side. _____
- Something you put on your toothbrush to brush your teeth _____
- A food with a crust, cheese, and toppings that is shaped like a circle but cut into triangles. _____
- Something green that grows on a tree and can shade you if there are enough of them. _____

Extra Practice:

Help your child practice these types of reverse definitions at other times as well. You can say some of these while waiting in a line or driving in the car. You can also play a jeopardy-like game to practice these as well.

Improving Word Retrieval Skills

Listing Items Required for a Task

Have your child quickly name all of the things she would need to have to complete one of the following tasks. Time her to see how fast she can come up with 10 items. When you've used all of these tasks, try asking about other tasks as well.

Washing Your Hands

Brushing Your Teeth

Getting Ready for Bed

Pouring a Bowl of Cereal

Painting a Picture

Taking a Bath

Making a Sandwich

Putting on Your Shoes and Socks

Extra Practice:

Help your child practice these types of lists at other times as well. You can say some of these while waiting in a line or driving in the car. See if she can beat her time for coming up with a list of 10.

Activities for Improving Word Retrieval:

Finish Similes

Write a word in each blank that completes the simile. The word must fit with the descriptor provided. If your child cannot read or write, say these out loud and have your child say a word that could fill in the blank.

- As sticky as _____
- As wet as _____
- As scary as _____
- As happy as _____
- As creepy as _____
- As loud as _____
- As quick as _____
- As sneaky as _____
- As lazy as _____
- As dry as _____
- As slow as _____
- As wide as _____
- As long as_____
- As excited as _____
- As wrong as _____
- As smart as _____
- As hungry as _____
- As full as _____
- As warm as _____
- As soft as _____
- As friendly as _____
- As bossy as _____
- As stuck as _____
- As strong as _____
- As dizzy as _____
- As funny as _____
- As perfect as _____
- As stubborn as _____
- As sleepy as _____
- As weak as _____
- As thirsty as _____
- As dirty as _____
- As short as _____
- As bored as _____

Extra Practice:

Help your child practice these similes at other times as well. You can say some of these while waiting in a line or driving in the car. See who can come up with the funniest or most clever similes.

Activities for Improving Word Retrieval:

Antonyms and Synonyms

Look at the word on the left side of the page. In the first blank, write a word that means the same as the target word. In the second blank, write a word that means the opposite of the target word. If your child cannot read or write, say these out loud and have your child say a word that could fill in the blank.

Word:	**Synonym:**	**Antonym:**
Happy	_____	_____
Scary	_____	_____
Excited	_____	_____
Lonely	_____	_____
Fancy	_____	_____
Fast	_____	_____
Sneaky	_____	_____
Lazy	_____	_____
Dry	_____	_____
Slow	_____	_____
Wide	_____	_____
Hurry	_____	_____
Run	_____	_____
Eat	_____	_____
Smart	_____	_____

Extra Practice:

Help your child practice these antonyms and synonyms at other times as well. You can say some of these while waiting in a line or driving in the car. Time your child to see how long it takes her to do 10 of these and see if she can beat her time.