

Coppy and Classify

Level: A1.1, A1.2

Age: 6-10

Organization: whole class, Individual

Aims: To copy and classify familiar words into categories.

Language focus: *In the example:* food, fruit and vegetables

Alternatives: any language, e.g. animals, sports, free-time activities

Materials: *Essential:* none

Procedure

1. Ask the children to tell you food words they know and write these on the board, e.g. *egg, tomato, hamburger, chicken, sausage, cheese, apple, banana, lettuce, ham, pear, orange.*
2. Draw two columns on the board and write headings, e.g. 'Food from animals' / 'Food from trees or plants' at the top of each one.
3. Ask the children to copy the headings into their notebooks and to copy all the food words on the board into the correct column.
4. At the end, children check their answers in pairs and then with the whole class.

Comments and Suggestions

- This activity provides practice in copying and writing at word level but also challenges children to think by asking them to classify the words. This helps to transform a potentially mechanical copying activity into a cognitively engaging and meaningful one.
- A range of other vocabulary and categories can be used in the activity, eg, *food that is good / bad for you, Fruit / Vegetables, Animals, that are mammals / reptiles, Sports that use / don't use a ball, Free-time activities that are / aren't good exercise.*
- Children can also be asked to copy and classify words in a personalized way, e.g. *Food - I like / don't like, Animals - I think are scary / not scary.* This can lead into a speaking activity in which children ask questions and exchange their views.

