



Lexical sets

Why use lexical sets?

- ❑ Learning relies on language and access to a wide range of vocabulary
- ❑ Children need to learn social language (Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills – BICS) and academic language (Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency – CALP) (if you are interested in this area, read the work of Jim Cummins)
- ❑ Lexical sets are words associated with a subject e.g. the weather. Learning sets of words allows children to access aspects of a lesson
- ❑ These are valuable to ALL children in your class. They are valuable even if you do not have children with EAL in your class!



VOCABULARY
Words Are
Important!

Lexical sets

At the bakery/na padaria

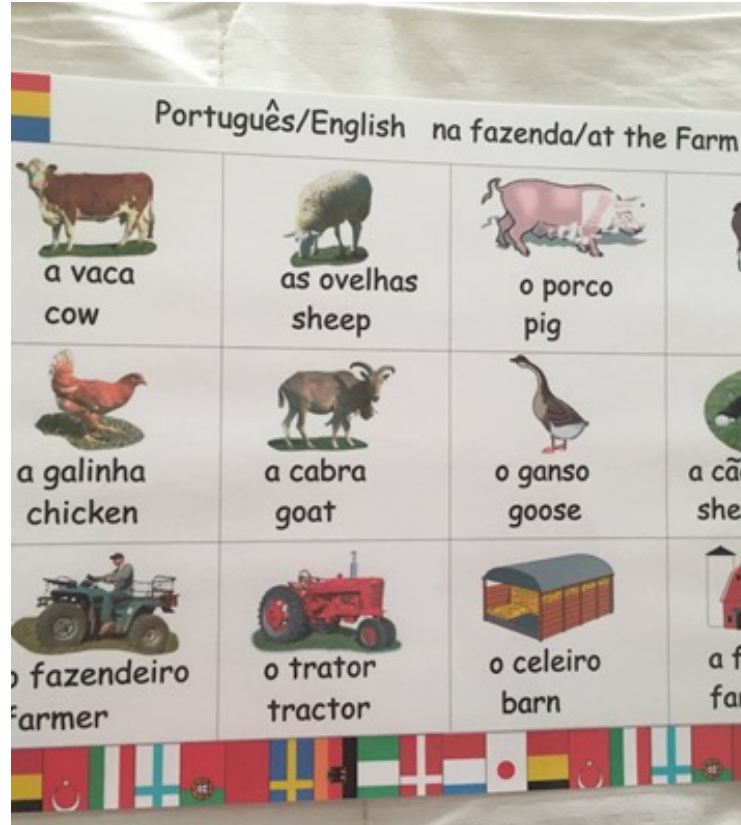
bread roll	o rolo de pão
quiche	a quiche
pie	a torta
doughnut	o donut
bread sticks	os palitos de pão
cake	o bolo
biscuit	o biscoito
bread	o pão
sliced loaf	o pão cortado
baguette	a baguette
crisps	as batatas fritas
pizza	a pizza

In the sea/no mar

water	a água
fish	o peixe
shark	o tubarão
whale	a baleia
jellyfish	a água-viva
waves	as ondas
seaweed	as algas marinhas
rocks	as rochas
starfish	a estrela do mar
boat	o barco
submarine	o submarino
fishing boat	o barco de pesca

Using lexical sets (1)

- Pre-teaching vocabulary
- Lexical sets can be introduced using pre-teaching of vocabulary or resources can be produced to support children with engagement with the lesson
- Slowly build up a bank of lexical sets, making them as colourful and visual as possible, so that children can utilise them without support where necessary



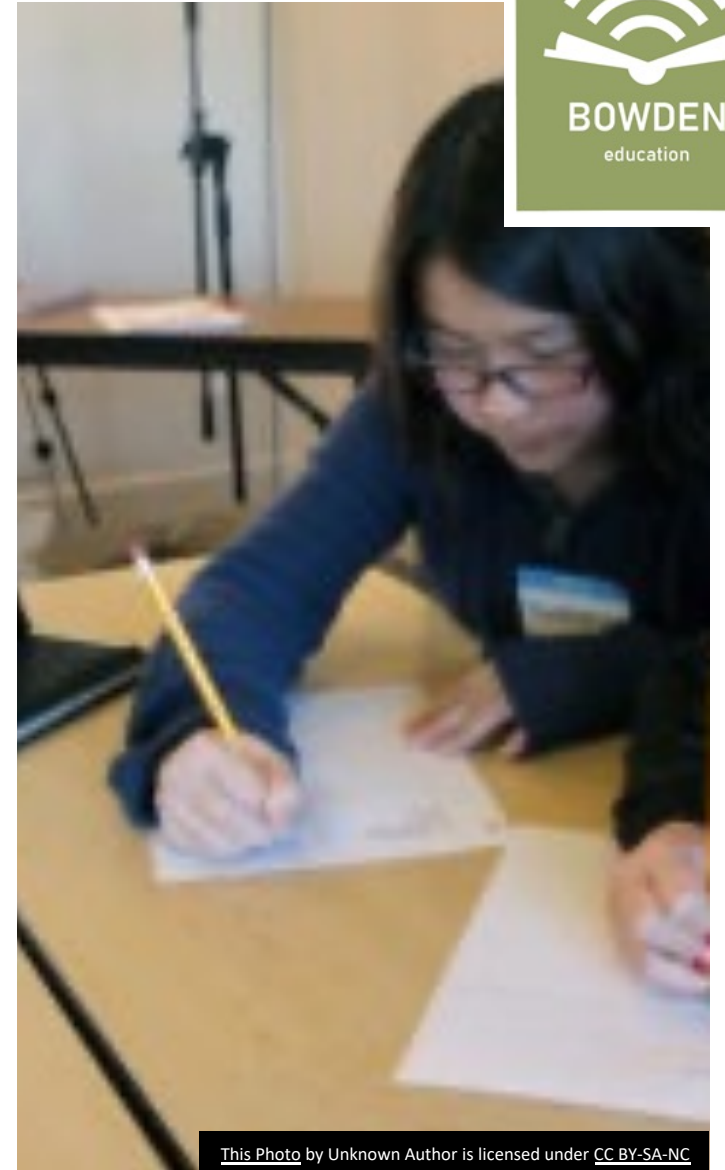
Using lexical sets (2)

LANGUAGE MATS

Using lexical sets (3)

Children creating their own resources:

- ❑ Word gathering techniques e.g. verbal ping pong, shared writing, role on the wall
- ❑ Creating language mats associated with different subjects/topics
- ❑ Homework activities – creating monolingual and multilingual resources



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