Helping Your Child with Lists: Commas and Full Stops

Key points

- In Year 2, children learn to use commas to separate a list of three or more items in a sentence.
- Commas act like a small pause between items, such as 'I like apples, pears and grapes'.
- A comma is not needed just before the word 'and' at the end of the list.
- Every sentence must still end with a full stop to show the thought is finished.
- Some schools may have slightly different ways of teaching this, so feel free to ask your child's teacher.

Things to try at home

- Play 'I went to the shop and bought...' and take turns naming three things, pretending to put a comma between the first two.
- While cooking or tidying, ask your child to help you list three ingredients or toys using a 'comma pause' in their voice.
- Look at a favourite picture book together and spot a sentence that has a list in it.

Find out more

- Your child's class teacher
- The GOV.UK website for National Curriculum guidance