Sleepover: Making and using lists

In the video ‘Sleepover’, the family practise English with a list. A list can be drawn or written by your child, depending on their abilities. Notice how they repeat the language on the list, first by saying what each item is, then when they collect the items and again when they pack the items. This helps reinforce the language. Use phrases like ‘We need ...’ or ‘What’s next?’ when talking about the items on a list.

Here are some other ideas for making and using lists in English.

For a holiday:
- a list of things to take – like in the video
- a list of activities to do – talk about this list each evening, what you did and didn’t do that day, what you’d like to do the next day.

For the supermarket:
- a list of things to buy – repeat the language at home when you make the list, in the supermarket when you collect the food and at home when you put it away.

For a party:
- a list of things to prepare, buy or get ready – talk about the list every time something is done, say what you have done and what you still need to do.

For school:
- a list of things to go in your child’s school bag – this list can be reused every morning to make sure your child doesn’t forget their books, pencil case, homework, etc.

For tidying their bedroom:
- a list of things to do to tidy their bedroom, such as ‘put toys in the toy box’, ‘make the bed’, ‘put rubbish in the bin’, etc. – this list can be discussed before tidying their bedroom as a reminder, and afterwards to check it’s been completed.

For household chores:
- a list of the jobs everybody needs to do in the house, such as washing up, tidying the living room, sweeping the floor – each evening or at the weekend, everyone can look together at the list and say what their job is.