

# Language and Meaning: How We Learn

Scarlett in the garden

#### **Dominic**

Shall we just fill up the watering cans?

#### Scarlett

Yeah.

Coming down ... mine.

#### **Dominic**

OK, there you go, do you want to put it here? Shall we put that one in here as well.

#### Scarlett

Is it all in?

#### **Dominic**

OK hold on to it. Tell me to say stop. When do you want me to stop? Now?

#### Scarlett

Yeah

### **Dominic Sant**

Oh wow. OK.

What are we going to water now?

#### Scarlett

Ah, er over here

Dominic

OK. I think what we should do is water these ones over here. Oh watch your feet.

# Scarlett

Where?

# **Dominic**

Go over here. Let's put some more in here.

Oh no there's another earwig in there. Don't know why they're called earwigs but look at him.

### Scarlett

Take him off here. Take him off here.

#### **Dominic**

OK I'll put him over here. Let's water these ones. And then let's have a look what's under here.

Shall we water this one together?

Oh what've I got here? Scarlett, look. What's that?

# Scarlett

A spider.

# **Dominic**

Is that a spider? Why do you think it's a spider?

#### Scarlett

I not know. A bider. [spider]

#### **Dominic**

How many legs has it got?

#### Scarlett

Lots. A bider. [spider]

# **Dominic**

It's a beetle. A beetle. Shall I try and pick him up.

#### Scarlett

It's moving.

#### **Dominic**

Look at him. Wow that was a lucky find wasn't it?

#### Scarlett

Lets have snail, lets have snail

#### **Dominic**

A snail. Do you want to go and find a snail?

#### Scarlett

Two

# **Dominic**

What does a snail look like?

#### Scarlett

Sss.

# **Dominic**

What's this, this is his foot is it? Shall we go and have a look. At the end of the garden yeah?

Shall we see how many snails we can find? Do you want to go for the record of snails? Oh what's that one?

# Scarlett

A snail. Lets see

### **Dominic**

What's that?

# Scarlett

He's not getting out.

### **Dominic**

Shall we just pop him here? Like so.

# Scarlett

Take him off.

### **Dominic**

Oh oh. What's that one then?

# Scarlett

I not know. You take him off here.

# **Dominic**

OK we'll put him down here shall we?

#### Scarlett

He moving.

#### **Dominic**

How many feet has this one got?

#### Scarlett

Just two.

#### **Dominic**

Two? Show me where the two are. I can't see two legs. Look now you can see that those two are similar aren't they?

So, oh look. There's the beetle, there's a snail and do you know what this is called?

### Scarlett

No.

#### **Dominic**

Do you know what this is called? It's called a slug.

#### Scarlett

Him going down here.

#### Dominic

Yeah, the slugs going down here isn't he? So look, look what's different about them.

#### Scarlett

You touch him.

#### Dominic

Yeah this one's got a shell and this one hasn't got a shell.

# Scarlett

This one got a shell...here

#### Dominic

Yeah so what's that one called?

#### Scarlett

A 'nail. A 'nail. [snail]

# **Dominic**

And?

# Scarlett

A ... what is he ... I not know.

# **Dominic**

It begins with S ... slug.

Right shall we, I'll find something else and see if you can, oh, what's that one called?

### Scarlett

I don't know. Like that one.

# **Dominic**

Which one's it like?

# Scarlett

This one with. This one not

#### Dominic

OK its not, is it like that one? Why's it not like that one?

#### Scarlett

Him not getting out

# **Dominic**

OK.

## Nanny

Are you going to show, show me all your snails?

#### Scarlett

Just Daddy finding it. You come here.

#### Nanny

You come here. OK I'll come here. Are you going to find them? Where's, where's those snails gone that we had?

#### Scarlett

They sleeping.

#### Nanny

They're sleeping are they? Is, is, are they put their head in their shells have they? What have we got in here?

Oh what's that Scarlett? What colour's that? What colour's that Scarlett?

# Scarlett

Not very nice. You put him down.

#### Nanny

You put him down. Do you think, is that a worm?

#### Scarlett

We like worm.

# Nanny

You like worms? Do you? I think that's a slug isn't it? Is it a yellowy?

### Scarlett

Not touch him.

# Nanny

Oh not touch him.

# Scarlett

Yeah. You put him down.

#### Nanny

You want me to put him down? Why do you want me to put him down?

# Scarlett

He's not very nice.

# Nanny

He's not very nice?

#### Scarlett

No.

# Nanny

He's alright. He won't hurt us. Look there's a little tiny one, a baby one there. Can you see the baby one? Which is the baby one Scarlett?

# Scarlett

This one here.

# Nanny

That's, that's a baby one. And, that's a big one, he's not harmful is he?

#### Scarlett

He's not hurt me. The little one not hurt me.

### Nanny

No the little one won't hurt you.

#### Scarlett

Oh. I like the little one.

# Nanny

You like the little one.

He's moving. We're not frightened of him are we? No.

#### Scarlett

Just a tiny little bit.

# Nanny

Just a tiny little bit. OK.

# Scarlett

Not put your finger there ... he moving.

# Nanny

You watch now, you watch him climb down there. Oh look he's going to go down there, look how clever he is. He's exploring.

Do you think he's going to find the grass?

#### Scarlett

This is going home.

# Nanny

He's going home is he? Mmm that's clever isn't it? Can you remember what colour these are?

# Scarlett

Yellow.

### Nanny

That's right. And what about this one?

### Scarlett

Oh he's purple.

# Nanny

Is he purple? And what about those two? That one's.

Scarlett

Yellow

#### Nanny

That's not yellow. What colour's that?

#### Scarlett

White.

# Nanny

And that one's? Is he brown? Do you think he's brown? He's, what colour's that one?

#### Scarlett

Black.

### Nanny

He's black.

Oh look, look at the little, can you see the baby snail climbing up now?

#### Scarlett

Yes. Don't touch him.

#### Nanny

Not touch him? He won't hurt you look. You touch him. Just touch his shell. There you are. He doesn't hurt does he?

#### Scarlett

And this one?

#### Nanny

You can touch that one as well, the big one. Both of them. They're asleep I think. How many have got shells? How many? Count them.

#### Scarlett

One, not touch him. One, two.

# Nanny

What about that one?

# Scarlett

Three.

# Nanny

Three.

Shall we just pick a few leaves up to help daddy eh? Before we go? Shall we? Now you know you haven't got to pick the nice ones don't you? Where's your bucket?

#### Scarlett

This is your bucket

### Nanny

And this is my bucket.

By the flowers over there. Would you like to pick the dead flowers for nanny. Look if nanny puts you over there look. Would you like to pick the dead flowers off there for nanny please. Just off that one there. Pick the dead leaves and put them in your bucket. Put your bucket down.

#### Scarlett

That's dead.

# Nanny

Is that dead?

#### Scarlett

Yes. Not take this

# Nanny

No come on then. Step down there. You come and find the blue flowers. Where are the blue flowers Scarlett? Are they dead or are they alive?

# Scarlett

Alive.

# Nanny

Those are alive are they? Well we can't pick those then can we? Just get down on your knee and have a look and see if that's alive. Is that alive?

#### Scarlett

No.

### Nanny

Is that one alive? Does that smell nice? Do you think that's OK?

#### Scarlett

Smell it. Yeah. Just a bit

# Nanny

Do you think,

# Scarlett

Just put some in here.

#### Nanny

that's OK is it? We mustn't pick, we mustn't pick those must we?

#### Scarlett

No

# Nanny

No. What about the blue ones?

### Scarlett

No.

# Nanny

You mustn't pick those either?

# Scarlett

No

# Nanny

No

### Scarlett

Just the leaves

# Nanny

Just, just the leaves

### Scarlett

Yeah.

### Nanny

Oh that's a good girl. There's a leaf there look.

#### Scarlett

We pick this one up.

# Nanny

You pick that one up as well. Oh that's a lovely flower isn't it?

#### Scarlett

Not pick this off.

#### Nanny

You're not to pick those, no. You pick them off the, off the ground do you?

#### Scarlett

Just get this bit here. Just get off

#### Nanny

Put them in the bucket then. And some more.

#### Scarlett

Just take this bit

# Nanny

That one's not ready yet is it?

No that's a, no you mustn't do that one must you. No you can only pick the ones off the ground.

# Scarlett

Just get this bit

# Nanny

Only those, yeah. There you are put them in the bucket.

# Scarlett

Just, just going through get my bucket.

#### Nanny

Careful

#### Scarlett

Oh ho ho. Thank you thank you Nanny

# Nanny

Look there's a lot more down there isn't?

# Scarlett

These are your ones.

#### Nanny

Those are my ones? Why are they my ones Scarlett?

## Scarlett

'Coz they're big.

#### Nanny

Oh they're big because they're my ones. OK. Put them in the bucket.

# Scarlett

Just putting these in your bucket