

## Professional Learning

# Language-based Learning in Child and Adult Interactions

## Bumblebee

Child: Bumblebee.

Mother: Where was the bumblebee?

Child: Bumblebee on train.

Mother: What did mummy do?

Child: Mummy open the window.

Mother: Where did bumblebee go?

Child: Bumblebee flew away.

(Halliday 1984 in Painter 1991: 53)

## Questions

In this transcript the mother and child are using language to talk about shared experience. Who guides the conversation?

By focusing on a sequence of events that unfold in time, what type of text is the mother guiding the child to jointly construct?

If the mother had decided to focus on the appearance of the bumblebee, what type of text would they have jointly constructed?