

Developing your Child's Talking Skills

Talking is a key part of everyday life and your child's ability to talk will develop over time. It's important to remember not to put pressure on your child to talk as this can cause anxiety. Below are some simple strategies to help your child's talking skills.

For further information about talking please visit: www.letsstarttotalk.co.uk

Children learn their words by hearing them.

To start off with simply name what your child is focusing their attention on using single words.

e.g. "Car", "Ball", "aeroplane", "running".

Your child will need to hear the word lots before they are able to use it.

Remember, children learn more when they are having fun!

Try not to ask your child "What's this" or "what are you doing?" when they are playing. It is more useful to tell them what the object is or what they are doing so that they can hear the words.

Give your child choices to encourage them to communicate. E.g. "Would you like milk or juice?". Your child may point to what they want to start with. If they do simply name their choice and eventually they will begin to use their words.



It's important to accept ALL forms of communication. Whilst your child is learning how to talk they may point or simply look at what they want. You should still praise them for showing you.

If your child says a word or short sentence, simply repeat it and add another word to it. E.g. "Car", "yes fast car!". This will help your child to develop their ability at putting their words together to make sentences.

Repeat your child's attempts at talking. This will allow them to hear how the word should have been said if they said it incorrectly as well as reinforce them that they have said something well. This will also encourage them to say it again.



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