

Top tips to help your child develop their speech, language and communication

Top tip 1

Be there and be present! Play and talk with your baby or child, with no other distractions, so turn off the TV and put your phone out of reach.

Just a few minutes each day, can really help to make a difference!

Top tip 2

If your child is talking, but not quite using the right words or sentences, try not to correct them. Simply repeat the words or sentence back to them correctly. For example...If they say "we gone shops", you could say "yes, we went to the shops".

This helps your child to learn the correct way to say things, whilst building their confidence to keep talking!

Top tip 3

Don't forget to share! TV programmes and apps can be great fun and very absorbing for your child, but they will learn so much more if you join in too and talk with them about what is happening.

Top tip 4

While doing everyday things, comment on what you or your child is doing, using simple and repetitive language, such as "out we go" or "here's mummy / daddy".

Top tip 5

Listen and respond to all attempts at communication from your child, whether it is words, sounds, gestures or facial expressions. The more you respond, the more your child will try!

Top tip 6

Remember to share! Share books, songs and rhymes, as often as possible, such as bedtime, bath time, in the car or in the buggy. Sing, make silly noises and have fun with sounds and words!

Top tip 7

If you speak additional languages at home, other than English, keep on speaking them with your child. This will really help develop good communication skills.

Commissioned by

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