



Top Ten Tips for Language and Communication: Getting your child ready for school



Remember



Ideas





Good conversations involves equal turns. Use toys and table top games that encourage turn taking and develop attention and listening (e.g. lottos, puzzles or snap).



o ffer the correct example

Interpret what your child is saying, repeat back what it should be. Child – 'me want mato' You – 'Oh.... You want a tomato'. Child – 'him falled down stair' You – 'yes he fell down the stair'.



p rovide and build.....

Remember expand and develop what your child says: Child: 'wand car' You: ' you want your blue police car'.



Child: 'sad lost ball' You: 'he is sad because he has lost his ball'.



Use simple or reduced language – this is ok for younger children. Gain full attention, emphasise key words. Chunk the instruction and ask them to repeat back.



nvironment to learn language

Switch the telly off and make some special time. Encourage some of the skills that your child will need for school – good sitting, listening and looking.



ow be follower and leader

It's good to follow your child's lead during play.

But.....encourage your child to also follow the adult too.



hink about different words

Develop your child's word bank. Label the action and describing words (e.g. action = skipping, texture = furry) and remember the position words in/on/under and in front/behind. Use the concepts same/different and first/next/last.

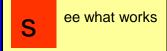


ntroduce fun with sounds Have fun with Nursery Rhymes and rhyming words. Clap out words into parts (e.g.ba/na/na). Play 'I spy', Find words that start or end with specific sounds. Read books together and point out some of the sounds.



p romote conversations

Create lots of talking opportunities. Talk together about your day and their time at nursery. Encourage them to tell you about an activity (e.g. making a sandwich) or how things happen. Get them to help you with a list (i.e. shopping or packing).

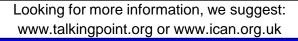


Go with what works, build on and develop your child's skills.

Have fun and give lots of praise.











SPEECH SOUND CHECKLIST



		90% of children
All common vowel sounds		3 years
[p] [b] [t] [d] [m] [n]	pan, sheep ball, crab teddy, letter dog, bed mouse, mummy nose, banana wellies	3 years
[k] [g] [f] [h] [y] [s] [ng]	cat, <u>k</u> ey, ro <u>ck</u> et go, dog feet, knife <u>h</u> ouse yes soap, dre <u>ss</u> ki <u>ng</u>	5 years
[sh] [ch] [j] [z] [v]	<u>sh</u> oe, fi <u>sh</u> <u>ch</u> in, ket <u>ch</u> up joke, bri <u>dg</u> e <u>z</u> oo, bee <u>s</u> <u>v</u> an, lea <u>v</u> es <u>l</u> ion, be <u>ll</u>	6 years
[r] [th] [th] []	<u>r</u> ain, bea <u>r</u> <u>th</u> in, ba <u>th</u> fea <u>th</u> er mea <u>s</u> ure	7 years

Based on research by Ann Locke

These are the ages when 90% of children will use these sounds.