



## Top Tips for Talking!

### Be Face to Face

Get down to your child's level by sitting or lying down, or bring them up to your level. It's easier for you to listen and talk to each other if you are face to face



### Follow their Lead

Watch how your child plays and copy them. They are more likely to stay and play if you follow their interests. Children love talking about what they are doing!



### Give them Extra Time

Help your child to talk more by giving them extra time. When you play together try waiting a bit longer than usual to see what they do or say first

### Use simple language

Use single words or short phrases to talk about things your child can see or what's happening. For example "breakfast time!" or 'wow, you're building a tower'

### Comment not Question

Asking lots of questions can feel like a test. Make talking fun by commenting on what your child is doing. Use a sound, word or short sentence e.g. 'choo choo', 'train' or 'pushing the train'. This will help them learn new words and sentences

### Copy what they Say

Repeat back sounds, words and sentences. It shows that you're interested and that sounds and words are important

### Repeat what you Say

Say the same words lots of times in play and routines. E.g. repeat 'wash' during bathtime, saying 'wash your toes... wash your belly' etc. This will help your child learn new words



### Copy and Add a Word

Add one or two words to what your child says e.g. if your child says 'bus' you say 'big bus'. This will help your child move on to the next stage of talking