

Communication and language development

There are many ways in which children learn how to communicate. we have delivered a presentation to you to show you the varied approaches you can take to support the communication development of your child.

This Handout will cover the top tips highlighted and covers;

- Play
- Outdoor Learning
- Using visuals
- Developing communication through reading

Top Tips ✓

Developing communication through Play

- Let your child take the lead - collaborative play
- get down to your child's level
- Reduce any other distractions if possible
- listen to your child
- 10 second rule
- My turn, your turn
- Make comments instead of asking questions
- model language back rather than correct it
- speak in home language
- model wants and needs
- Have comfortable pauses to allow your child to join in
- Support their interests
- model and use gestures, body language and facial expressions



Outdoor learning with your child

- Lots of activities can be done in a garden, a park, walking to school and so on...
- Observe nature; collect leaves, stones or other objects
- Draw these objects or make a collage or picture out of the objects when you get home
- have discussions - 'How many different types of leaves can you find?' and then make a leaf rubbing.
- Talk about changing seasons
- If you have a garden or balcony plan seeds and have a go at growing things - Runner beans are good to observe roots and shoots

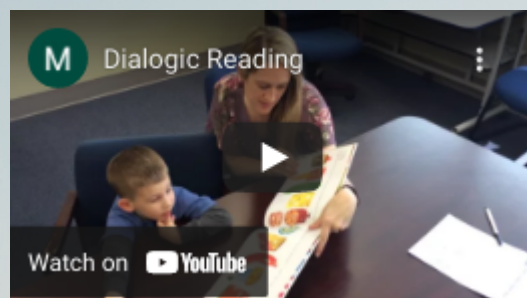
Ideas of outdoor activities:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities>

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Developing communication through reading

- Read to your child as often as possible, make it a part of your daily routine.
- Make reading as fun and engaging as possible
- Make sure that child is actively engaging whilst you are reading to them
- Find books that align with your child's interest and reading level
- Use the Prompt style questioning;
 - Completion - Leave out a part of a sentence for child to fill in.
 - Recall - Recall specific details/events in the text.
 - Open-ended - Questions about the passage that have an open answer.
 - Wh-questions - Elicit specific answers with question words (who, what, where, where, why, & how).
 - Distancing - Connect the text to child's lives and world knowledge.



Using Visuals at Home

- Ideally, if your child is using visuals at school, the same ones could be used at home
- Using familiar visuals gives the children consistency which enables them to transfer skills in both
- Using objects of reference will support vocabulary development
- Do not forget to adapt your child's visuals to support their development
- Consider making visuals to support everyday routines

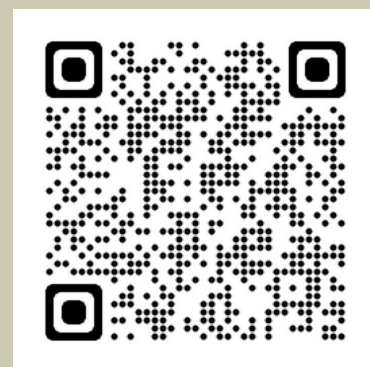


School Days		Mon	Tue	Wed
Bedroom:	Get dressed			
	Put dirty clothes in laundry	✓		
Bathroom:	brush teeth	✓		
	Comb hair	✓		
Kitchen:	put on/tie shoes	✓		

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Additional Communication Resources

Use QR to access Video



<https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents/>

<https://www.speechworksservices.co.uk/resources/>

<http://www.lucid.ac.uk/resources/for-parents/>

<https://www.earlyyearsstaffroom.com/resource-category/general/parent-communication/>

<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/early-years/childcare-practice/teaching-learning-and-assessment/every-child-a-talker-ecat/partnerships-with-parents>