

Ideas To Develop Early Language

- **Talk** to the child when you are playing together.



- Have fun with **nursery rhymes and songs**, especially those with actions.
- Encourage the child to **listen to different sounds** in their environment such as cars, animals and the telephone.

- **Gain the child's attention** and eye contact when you want to talk together.
- Encourage the child to **communicate in any way**, not just through words e.g. pointing, copying actions/noises.
- **Name** what the child points to.
- Give the child **choices** e.g. 'Do you want the juice or milk?'
- **Talk about things as they happen** e.g. playing in the home corner, daily routines-bath time, mealtimes
- Use **short sentences**
- Listen carefully and give the child **time to communicate**.
- Take **turns** to speak.



- Always give a **response** when the child tries to communicate.
- **Add one or two words** to the child's sentence e.g. child says 'ball', adult replies 'Yes, it's a big ball'
- **Model** the correct pronunciation or use of language if the child says something incorrectly e.g. 'Goggy bited it', the adult says 'Yes the dog bit it'
- Have a **special time** with the child each day to play with toys and picture books.
- Use lots of **repetition** e.g. shoes off, blue shoes, mummy's shoes etc.
- Set up **situations** to encourage the child to make a request e.g. put the biscuits out of reach.

