

Speech and Language Therapy

Early Vocalising

Lesson 1 of 14 on Using Language

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Play builds the way to language!

Stop, Look, Listen

What are they **focused** on, **interested** in and/or **telling** you?

(With their facial expression, body and nonverbal communication)

Wait

Wait for any **lead** from the child.

Wait 1 ½ -2 times your usual waiting time.

Listen to messages your child is trying to convey (With their facial expression, body and nonverbal communication)

Respond

Respond to any messages your child is trying to make (e.g. I like / I want / I don't like this).

Follow the child's lead.

Join in

Get down to the child's level, face-to-face and find a way to **playfully join in**.

Try and **copy** whatever the child does with the toy. Then **wait, observe** copy again to start building turns.



Encouraging vocalisations

During these routines and events:

Make sure you are both comfortable and relaxed

Make sure you are both face to face (people play games are a great activity to try)

Observe the child

If the child makes a sound or a combination of sounds, repeat it back to them.

Use an interesting tone of voice and bright and warm facial expression.

Pause and wait - remember to give the pupil plenty of time!

Then try....

Pause and wait - remember to give the pupil plenty of time!

Respond to any sounds that the child makes after you copied them.

If the pupil doesn't make a sound, try making a sound you have heard them used in another situation.

Pause and wait to see their reaction to this.



Encouraging vocalisations

Make this type of vocalisation exchange consistent, fun filled and regular.

Once the routine is established, try copying back and expanding the sound the child has made by adding another sound or syllable. Its best to add in a sounds you have heard them use before so you know they can make it.

For example:

Child: Di

Adult: Di Da

Extend this type of communication into as many rewarding and motivating routines and activities as possible.



Using Language Diary

Date:

We learnt about

When my adult

I...

Insert picture

