

Talk with me - Communication tips for parents

2 to 3 years

COMMUNICATION TIPS

- Read books with your child as often as you can. Talk about the pictures. Let them fill in parts of familiar stories.
- Make time to listen to your child when they are telling you something. Stop what you are doing and get down to their level.
- If your child's sentence is muddled don't correct them but repeat back to them how they could have said it.
- Join in play with your child, following their lead.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes, pausing for them to fill in missing words.
- Your child is still learning new words and hearing them many times will help them learn them quicker.
- Don't correct words that are not said correctly, as with muddled sentences just repeat back the word said with the correct sounds.
- Play games that take turns such as simple pairs, lotto or catching a ball.
- Restrict the amount of TV your child watches. Make sure that your child has plenty of opportunities to interact with you, the rest of the family and friends.
- Talk about and involve your child in everyday situations such as shopping, cooking or cleaning. Your child will enjoy these more when they are given a role to play and are included in conversations as they happen.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your child learns best through activities and experiences that engage all the senses.

For more information and tips about communicating with your child visit:

Surrey Family Information Service

www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning

surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk

0300 200 1004

"what I like"

- Singing songs.
- To ask questions beginning with 'who', 'what' and 'why'.

"what I can do"

- I can put lots of words together and have a conversation with you.
- I am beginning to be able to talk about things that happened in the past as well as things that are happening now.
- I can understand questions that you ask beginning with 'who' and 'where' and I'm beginning to understand 'why' questions.
- I am learning the meaning of words that describe size such as 'big' and 'little', colour such as 'red', 'yellow' or 'black' and position such as 'in', 'on' or 'under' and I use these to tell you about things.
- I can listen to longer stories and enjoy familiar ones where I can join in.
- I am beginning to understand about emotions and may be able to tell you how I am feeling, if not I will do soon.
- I may still have difficulty making some sounds but you should be able to understand me most of the time. Other people may find it more difficult.



I enjoy
with talking
you



SURREY