

Talk with me - Communication tips for parents

Pre natal and newborn

COMMUNICATION TIPS

- Hold your baby close and make eye contact while you talk, make faces or sing.
- Talk to your baby, they are comforted by your voice. If you don't know what to say, read a book or sing a song.
- Good times to talk are nappy changing, bath times, getting dressed, going for a walk, feeding, in fact all the time.
- Sing to your baby, they love hearing your voice.
- When your baby cries respond to them, this helps them develop an understanding of turn taking, even at a very young age.
- Try and listen to your baby's cry to see if it is different when they are hungry or tired or when a noise startles them.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

As parents, you are the most important people in developing your child's speech.

Babies hear before they are born. Talking to your baby before it is born can help you bond and singing to your child before it is born can help with your child's learning.

"what I can do"

- I may sleep a lot in my first few months, but when I'm awake my brain needs to be stimulated by seeing, hearing and touching things around me.
- I need you to hold me so that I feel comforted and secure and can respond to your voice and things you want me to listen to and see.
- I cry to let you know when I want something. I may be hungry, frightened, have a wet nappy or just want a cuddle.
- I prefer to listen to your calm voice and have a cuddle and some gentle rocking rather than a dummy.
- Soon I'll get better at making my cries different so that you'll know what I want and you'll get better at working out what my cries mean.



I can
hear *your*
voice



SURREY