

My child isn't using many words. How do I help them to say more?

Comment, comment, comment



Why?

- Your child will hear the right words as things happen.
- Your child is not put under pressure to talk.
- Your child knows you are interested



Jigsaws

- Peg puzzles have nice pictures of early everyday objects on them.
- Name the piece your child is looking at or holding, e.g. "car ... like Daddy's car."
- Give your child lots of time to have a go at repeating the words you use.

Books

- Let your child look at the pictures and turn the pages.
- Name the items that your child is looking at or pointing to, (e.g. cow... pig... house).
- Give them the words to say it as they would if they could.
- When your child tries to say a word, show you are pleased and repeat the word clearly.

What can I do?

- Say short sentences to match what your child is doing. E.g. "car going fast", "car's crashed"
- Say the words instead of asking questions. E.g. Instead of "What are you doing?", say "you're pouring some tea."
- Avoid test questions. E.g. "What's that? What is it? Who's that?" Instead say the words that go with what your child is doing. Then wait to see how your child responds.

All daily routines are good for using comments, e.g. dinner time, bed time, nappy changing time.



Bath Time

- Make bath time a talking time.
- See what your child is interested in.
- Use comments to describe what you are doing. E.g. "Splash... you made a splash" "mummy's running the water"

