

I want to help my child to use new words. I've tried asking questions - "What's that?" or asking my child to say the word back to me. Nothing seems to help.

Repeat Key Words



Why?

- Your child needs to understand a word before they can say it.
- Asking your child to say a word or asking "what's that?" doesn't give your child a model.
- Repeating words will help your child to understand them.
- It gives your child a clear model to copy.

What can I do?

- Say key words that go with what your child is doing.
- Make important words stand out:
 - Say the words on their own, e.g. "**drink**"
 - Use the word in different ways e.g. "Mummy's **drink**", "**drink** gone" etc.
- Use the same words at the same time each day.
- Say the words over and over but don't expect your child to say it straight away.



Washing and Dressing



- Make repeating words part of your routine.
- Say the words that go with what your child is looking at / what you are doing:
 - "water...soap...clean...teeth...feet...shoes...finished".
- Watch for how your child responds.



Books

- Let your child choose a book. Let them turn the pages and point to the pictures.
- Watch to see what your child is looking at.
- Keep repeating words that go with what they like to look at.

Bath Time



- Repeat the same words each bath time, "water, splash, wash dry etc".
- Say the words until your child moves on to something else.
- Watch what your child is looking at or pointing to. Repeat these words, e.g. bubbles, dripping etc.

Children don't get bored of hearing things and doing things over and over again, (even if we do!)

Keep repeating!!!