

Comment

Say what your child sees



Commenting gives them the language to match their experiences.

If your child is pointing or making sounds or words, add simple language, so they hear the word that relates to what they can see or want.

Watch to see what your child is interested in.

Comment on what they can see or what they are doing.

e.g. 'Cooking' 'you're cooking the dinner' (in kitchen role play).



Ask fewer questions

"Test" questions are used to try and get a child to speak, they are not genuine questions. A test question is "what's this" or "can you say..."; they do not encourage communication.

Asking fewer test questions reduces pressure on children to speak, so they are not forced to speak about what you already know.

Genuine questions (where you don't know the answer) are more useful e.g. 'do you want milk or juice?'

