



South Warwickshire  
University  
NHS Foundation Trust

# time to talk<sup>TM</sup>

to your  
2 year old



**Ages and Stages**  
of Speech, Language and Communication

## At 2 years old, I am learning to...

...use lots more words. I will have around 50 words even though they may not be clear

...understand your words and simple instructions e.g. 'get your ball'

...join my words together to make little phrases like 'my car'

...copy words or short phrases that I hear around me

...ask simple questions like 'what's that?'

...use simple sounds. My words will have 'easy' sounds like 'p' 'b' 'm' 'n'

I may become more aware of other children, and I might start to join in their play.



All children follow their own unique pattern of development. This is a general guide to how children typically learn to communicate at this age. It is not a screening tool, rather information to help you think about how you can help your child's communication skills excel.

## Helpful Hints



Here's some ideas to help all children to develop their communication skills

- Talk to me when we are doing everyday activities or routines like bath time. You can **use simple words** and short sentences that I might one day try to copy e.g. 'wash tummy' 'brush hair'.
- Please **pop your phone away** when we chat.
- When I say a little phrase I've learned from a song or programme, then **repeat it back to me** so I know you have heard me.
- When I am saying a word, try repeating it back to me and **add on another word** e.g. I say 'car' and you could then say 'yes! fast car'... 'big car'... 'blue car'.
- **Give me a choice** when you are offering me something. I might then have a go at the word e.g. 'milk or water?' 'apple or orange?'
- Don't worry if my words don't sound quite right. Just say them to me with the right sounds e.g. if I say 'dat' you can say 'yes! it's a cat'.
- Sometimes it's hard for me to move my attention when I am playing. Have a go calling my name first or coming close and tapping me. Sometimes I just need a bit longer to shift my attention to you, please **give me time**.



## Celebrate your home language

Talk, sing and read to me in **our home language**, it makes me feel included and helps me learn English too!

## Don't forget...

No matter what age I am, one of the best ways to help my speech and language development is to have some **special quiet time** with me so we can talk, play, sing nursery rhymes or look at books.

**Make 'time to talk' a priority**



## Where to get more information:

If you'd like to know more about how to help your child learn to communicate, then take a look at our website:

[www.timetotalkwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.timetotalkwarwickshire.co.uk)



If you have any questions or concerns, then contact your **Warwickshire Health Visitor** or local **Children & Family Centre**

As a service, we aim to provide fair and equal access to all experiences, backgrounds and differences. If you feel we can make reasonable adjustments to support you with accessing our material, please speak to the person sharing this information with you or contact the team using the details above.

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