



South Warwickshire
University
NHS Foundation Trust

time to talk™

to your
2 ½ year
old



Ages and stages information
for parents and carers

Now I am chattering away!

I have lots of new words. I may have around 200-500 words in my word bank!

I understand more words and follow longer instructions like "go and get your coat and shoes"

Listen to me use two words and even three word together e.g. 'my ball' 'want my ball'



I now understand the names of lots of everyday objects and pictures

I might notice what other children are playing and become interested in it. I might even join in and try to share!

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

- I love looking at **books**. Sometimes I might like to look at the pictures with you, sometimes I might like to just look at one page. That's alright! Just talk to me about what I am interested in!
- Talk with me in **short sentences**, this will help me to pick out the words I need to know.
- **Keep adding words** to my new words. Interpret my words and show me how I can say it.
- When I say a phrase I've learned from a song or programme, then **repeat it back** to me so I know you have heard me.
- It can still be tricky for me to switch my attention from my play to your voice. Please **give me time**.
- Please **pop your phone away** when we chat.
- **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?'
- People who don't know me so well might not be able to understand all my words. This can make me frustrated. Don't worry! **Repeat back my words** to me in a positive way, using the correct sounds.



Celebrate your home language

Talk, sing and read to me in **our home language**, it make 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



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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