

# Talk with me - Communication tips for parents

## 2 to 3 years

### COMMUNICATION TIPS

- Read books with your child as often as you can. Talk about the pictures. Let them fill in parts of familiar stories.
- Make time to listen to your child when they are telling you something. Stop what you are doing and get down to their level.
- If your child's sentence is muddled don't correct them but repeat back to them how they could have said it.
- Join in play with your child, following their lead.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes, pausing for them to fill in missing words.
- Your child is still learning new words and hearing them many times will help them learn them quicker.
- Don't correct words that are not said correctly, as with muddled sentences just repeat back the word said with the correct sounds.
- Play games that take turns such as simple pairs, lotto or catching a ball.
- Restrict the amount of TV your child watches. Make sure that your child has plenty of opportunities to interact with you, the rest of the family and friends.
- Talk about and involve your child in everyday situations such as shopping, cooking or cleaning. Your child will enjoy these more when they are given a role to play and are included in conversations as they happen.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Your child learns best through activities and experiences that engage all the senses.

For more information and tips about communicating with your child visit:

**Surrey Family Information Service**  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning)  
[surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk)  
0300 200 1004

### "what I like"

- Singing songs.
- To ask questions beginning with 'who', 'what' and 'why'.

### "what I can do"

- I can put lots of words together and have a conversation with you.
- I am beginning to be able to talk about things that happened in the past as well as things that are happening now.
- I can understand questions that you ask beginning with 'who' and 'where' and I'm beginning to understand 'why' questions.
- I am learning the meaning of words that describe size such as 'big' and 'little', colour such as 'red', 'yellow' or 'black' and position such as 'in', 'on' or 'under' and I use these to tell you about things.
- I can listen to longer stories and enjoy familiar ones where I can join in.
- I am beginning to understand about emotions and may be able to tell you how I am feeling, if not I will do soon.
- I may still have difficulty making some sounds but you should be able to understand me most of the time. Other people may find it more difficult.



I enjoy  
with talking  
you



SURREY