



Talking about....Speech and Language Summertime Activities

Adults can make a big difference in helping children's speech and language skills and the summer holidays can provide fantastic opportunities to listen to each other, give each other ideas and help our children to talk and interact successfully

Check out these Top https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/media/617945/tct_toptips_pdf.pdf

For younger children:

Choose a theme for the week, one for each week of the holidays e.g. animals, the park, shopping, the beach etc.

- Choose some toys to go with each theme and keep them in a box or special place for the week e.g. animals – set up a farm or zoo with toys you have already or make some from recycling junk. Find as many unusual animals as you can and introduce their names as you play.
- Make up some stories as you play and find some books that go with the theme.

Make a scrapbook. Take some photos as you play and use these for your child to tell a friend or relative what they have been doing.

At the supermarket. As you go around the shop, encourage your child to

- Find the things you name – start with 1 and increase the number you ask them to remember

- Give clues to an item you want rather than saying its name e.g. “something yellow, it's long and comes in a bunch”. Ask your child to tell you 2 things about each item.
- Clap out the number of syllables for each item you put in the trolley. Do they know the first sound? Can they name something else beginning with that sound?

In the kitchen. As they help you:

- Talk about the foods and use lots of different words for what you are doing e.g. chopping, slicing, tipping, pouring, adding etc.
- Encourage them to tell you the different steps by asking questions like What comes next? What came before? What did we do after....? What should we do next? How do we.....? When did we.....?
- Guess the noise – select some noisy items from your kitchen e.g. chopping board, whisk, baking tins etc. have them close their eyes and guess what sound they can hear.