

# **Top Tips for Talk**

## **Nursery**



### **1. Talk about what you are doing.**

Keep it short, simple and fun!

eg **“I’m washing the dishes”** **“Now I’m drying up”**  
**“I can see a dog”** **“He is a big dog”**

### **2. Talk about what your child is doing.**

When you are watching your child play talk about what they are doing. Use words your child understands. Keep sentences short and simple.

eg **“You are building a big tower! Wow!”**  
**“You threw the ball”** **“Nice throw Kate”**

### **3. Don’t ask too many questions.**

Asking questions can make a child feel like you’re testing them. Say simple comments instead.

eg Instead of picking up a toy truck and asking **“What is it?”**  
You could say **“That truck is fast.”** Pause and wait a few seconds to see if your child says anything. If not add another comment  
eg **“I like your truck”.**  
Then after a few comments you can throw in an open ended question like **“Where is the truck going?”**

### **4. Give choices.**

If your child finds it difficult to answer a question then offering a choice will be easier for them. Providing choices gives them some control, encourages decision making and promotes language development.

eg **“Sam do you want to play with the boat or the truck?”**  
Show them a boat and truck while you present each choice.

### **5. Expand your child’s language.**

Your child might say 2 words eg “sock off”. Take this opportunity to add in the missing words to make it a grammatically correct sentence.

eg **“Yes we are taking your sock off”**

