

# Communication

## What / Why

Students develop their language and social skills by listening to and sharing experiences with others. Everything you do with your child at home is helping to develop their communication skills.

## How

### Recasting

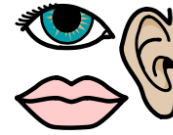
If your child responds to a question with single words, recast what they say e.g.

**Adult:** "Who is that picture for?"

**Child:** "Grandma"

**Adult:** "The picture is for grandma."

The child does not need to repeat the sentence, you are just exposing them to full simple sentences.



### Modelling Simple Sentences

Simply talking to your child as you do things helps to develop their language skills e.g. "I am spreading butter on your toast before I spread the jam on" The child does not need to repeat this sentence you are just exposing them to new vocabulary.

### Using Questions

Even students who have good language skills are continually developing their communication skills. If you are watching a film ask/answer questions together.

E.g. Why did he do that?

How might she feel?

What might happen next?

What happened first?

What would you have done?

## Word Work

Encourage your child to ask what words mean. Look meanings up in the [dictionary](#). Play hangman with new words you are learning. Make your own word searches. Find ways for your child to show off the new words they know.

## Resources



[Makaton](#)



[Plan your day ahead](#)



[Easy games to play](#)

## Web links



[Word Aware](#)



[Speech and Language](#)



[Online word games](#)



[Learn more online here](#)



## Supporting verbal communication

Makaton is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate.

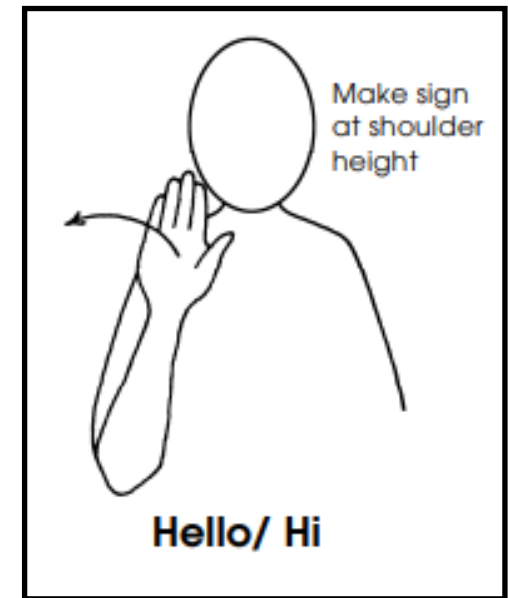
Makaton is used in school to support language development and understanding.

Check out the Makaton YouTube Channel here...

[Makaton YouTube Channel](#)



## Resources



**Which new signs can you learn?**



## Daily communication

It is important to talk about the things that we do each day and regular practice helps build confidence. Talk to your child about the day ahead. These sentence starters might help.

### My daily routine

Today I will

.....

.....

I need to

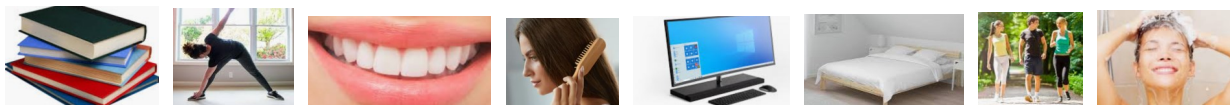
.....

.....

I can

.....

.....



### Words to help

 read	 exercise
 wash	 TV
 Computer	 Game
 Relax	 Play
 Watch	 bed
 Cook	 Talk

More Task Planners available in the Schedules and Routines Toolkit



## Building communication skills through play

### I went to the Market and...

#### Instructions

You start at the beginning of the alphabet and say something that begins with A, the next person says "I went to the market and bought (thing beginning with A) and (thing beginning with B).

E.g. Player 1: "I went to the market and bought an apple."

Player 2: "I went to the market and bought an apple and a balloon."

You keep taking turns adding on an item and remembering all the things in the list before.

You could also do this with "I went to the zoo and I saw... "



apple



banana



carrot



dog food



eggs



fish



grapes



hairspray



ice cream



juice



kite



lemons



marshmallows



nails



oranges



pineapples



quiz



book



raspberries



sausages



tea



umbrella



vinegar



water



x-box



yo-yo



zip



Building communication skills through play

**I Spy Instructions:**

Two players or more can take it in turns to look around and find an object to 'spy'. The other player has to guess what they 'spy' by asking questions. Players always start with 'I spy with my little eye...'

**Here's an example:**

Player 1: I spy with my little eye...something beginning with the letter F.

Player two: Is it a fox? Is it a fish? Is it a frog?

Players keep guessing until they get it right.



## Word Games

Building communication skills through play

### Twenty Questions

Pick a person, place, or thing and give the other player 20 yes-or-no tries at guessing what it is.

"I'm thinking of something."

"Is it a person?" "No."

"Is it a place?" "Yes."



## Word Games

Building communication skills through play

### Tongue Twisters

Say super strenuous sentences stuffed with silly speech sounds.

**"How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?"**

**"She sells seashells by the seashore"**

**" I saw a kitten eating chicken in the kitchen"**



I



saw

a



kitten



eating



chicken

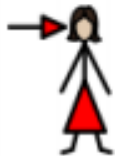


in

the



kitchen.



She



sells

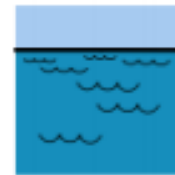


sea shells



by

the



sea



shore.

