Activities to Help Talking

- **Simon Says.** Ask your child to point to a body part, e.g. ‘Simon says touch your nose’. You can also play this with actions, e.g. ‘Simon says jump’. Take it in turns and let your child tell you what to do.

- **Shopping or café games.** Lay the food out and take it in turns to be the shop keeper/waitress (i.e. when playing the customer your child needs to ask for the food they want).

- **Action song.** Take it in turns to choose an action and everyone copy and sing about it, e.g. ‘everybody clapping, clapping, clapping, everybody clapping, just like Mummy’. Encourage everyone to join in.

- **Sharing news.** Take photos of activities you do together, e.g. playing at the park, baking a cake, etc. Look back at the photos together and ask your child simple ‘who’, ‘what’ and ‘where’ questions about them, e.g. ‘who is going down the slide?’ Encourage your child to show other family members the photos and tell them what they can see.

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**Top Tips**

If your child doesn’t know what to say in games, start the sentence for them and pause, e.g. ‘I want a ……’

If your child doesn’t know what to say in games, give them a choice, e.g. ‘do you want an apple or a banana’ (showing them the items at the same time).

Praise your child for ‘good talking’ during these games.
Activities to Help Talking

• **What’s missing?** Lay out 3 toys or everyday items. Name each one. Put a tea towel over the top and take one away. Ask your child to guess which one is missing.

• **Barrier games.** Sit opposite each other with a barrier in between you. Take it in turns to give each other simple instructions to follow with the toys/equipment you’ve got. Take the barrier away to see if the instruction has been followed, e.g. ‘put the dog in the box’.

• **Books.** Look at books with your child. You might read the story but make sure you look at the pictures together and comment on what is happening in the picture. Act the picture out with your child. Leave pauses for your child to comment too.

• **What’s in the bag?** Put everyday items into a bag. Sing the song ‘what’s in the bag, what’s in the bag, shake it, shake it, what’s in the bag’. Let your child take something out and give them time to name it.

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