

Spoken sentences and narrative

Using modelling (EYFS)

Activities and strategies to try:

- Children learn language best through playing and having fun. Get down to the child's level so that they can see you and hear you.
- Use these modelling techniques in ANY situation as way of developing children's spoken words and sentences.
- **Comment** on what they are doing or playing with e.g. "bed time", "baby sleeping". This helps to give them the words for their actions. Try to use comments instead of questions.
- **Interpret** what the child is doing or requesting by modelling **the language they could use** e.g. if the child points to their drink, model "drink" or "juice" to label what they have asked for.
- **Wait** for the child to respond. It is important to give them space and time to talk. This may take some time.
- **Repeat** any spoken words or sentences that the child uses,. This helps them to know that you have understood them and hear good examples of simple language.
- **Expand** the child's spoken utterances by adding 1 or 2 more words to what they have said e.g. if the child says "there's a car", you could say "yes, there's a big car".

Everyday Strategies Checklist:

Did you:

- ⇒ Follow what the child wanted to do ?
- ⇒ Wait for them to talk?
- ⇒ Listen to what they said?
- ⇒ Talk about what they were doing?
- ⇒ Use short and simple sentences?



Measuring Progress:

Increase in the child's understanding and use of simple vocabulary when communicating and playing.