

# Talking Tips

Families **talk** now

## Using comments, what does that mean?

Using comments is a bit like a running commentary.

Describe what your child is doing. Such as, "You're jumping", "You did a big yawn".

Use short, simple sentences when commenting. Short sentences are the kind that your child will find easy to copy when they are ready. Say things like, "Big bus", "Bye-bye mummy, mummy's going now".

These sentences are very short and simple. The words are easy for your child to listen to and understand.

You're splashing!  
Splish, splash, splosh!



## Why use comments?

If your child is not using many words, comments can help them learn more words. When you use comments, you put their thoughts and actions into words for them to hear, copy and use.

Comment on **exactly** what your child is doing. You will need to watch your child closely to make sure that your words match their thoughts and actions - not what you think they should be doing. This will mean that the words they are listening to are very closely linked to the things they are thinking about. Make comments in your home language, so they hear language used with variety of activities.

When you are commenting, **don't** ask your child to do any talking. Wait for them to say things if they want to. Silence can seem strange but is allowed.

It feels like the adult is doing lots of talking, but the child isn't doing any. Don't worry. Your child will be listening to your words and taking them in.

Comments show your child that you are giving them your attention, and you are interested in what they are doing and thinking.