THE VALUE OF TALK

Copdock and Bentley Schools take language and communication very seriously. Each year, we see more children needing extra support with their speech and language. We will asses your child for language in October and support any outcomes and if you or we feel your child needs additional support to produce words, we will work with you to help your child produce clearer words.

Come down to your child's level and give them time to answer.

Keep sentences short.

Narrate your day!

Use repetitive sentences.

Build on what your child has said by adding one or two extra words when you model it back: "Look! Car" "Yes, it's a red car".

Use nursery rhymes and songs as a way to support speech.

Don't forget we also communicate using our bodies and facial expressions. 80% of communication is about how we gesture - so keep on moving!

Get their attention and make eye contact.

Encourage your child to talk to you in full sentences by talking to them in full sentences.

Play turn taking games: snap, board games, Chinese whispers, etc

Try not to ask too many questions Especially ones that sound like you're constantly testing them!

The best questions are those that make children think rather than give an instant answer, like 'yes' or 'no'. Good questions start with 'Why?', 'How?' and 'What if...?'

Don't baby words – use rabbit rather than bunny, dog rather than doggy.

READ TO YOUR CHILD!

This will allow them to hear full sentences with new, different and exciting vocabulary.

LET'S SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN NOW!

Here are a few top tips for talking.

Model back correctly what your child has said adding extra descriptive words.

Talk about what you are doing or going to do.

Don't criticize if your child says something wrong – model the correct way!

Play around with words, sounds and sentences. Don't be afraid to talk in funny voices, have daft conversations or make up silly rhymes.

Have conversations
with your child – taking
turns in conversations
is tricky for children to
learn – encourage them
to wait while you are
talking and give them
your full attention
when it is their turn!
This will help children
learn to focus and
helps with behaviour.

Here are a couple of I Spy type games for you to play with your child.

Don't just tick them off though - use them to initiate conversation!





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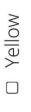








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