

## How to...

### Support a child to use short phrases

- Model back and expand...if the child uses 2 words together, repeat these back and add another word or two e.g. if they say “Mummy’s shoes”, you might say “**Mummy’s putting shoes on!**” If they say “Teddy’s eating”, you might say “**Teddy’s eating cake!**” Add action words and describing words (e.g. big/little/simple colours) as well as object words to show the child how to include these
- Use short phrases during everyday activities... talk about what is happening using simple repetitive language e.g. “**Daddy’s washing his hands**”, “**Let’s wash your hands**”, “**You’re driving your car!**”
- Share books together... talk about the pictures using short phrases e.g. “**The bear’s running**”, “**He’s running to his house**”, “**The bear’s running fast!**”
- Use action pictures ... you can find pictures online, make your own using photos of you/the child, or even a puppet or action figure! Take turns to talk about the pictures using short phrases e.g. “**Bear’s eating an apple!**”, “**Cat’s sitting on the table!**” Try to include information about **who** is in the picture, **what** they are **doing**, and what they are doing the action **to**

Additional information:

For further information please contact Paediatric.services@acecic.nhs.uk or call ACE paediatric services on 01206 588100

Additional resources:

<https://www.talkingpoint.org.uk>

<https://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/wellcomm/>

<https://www.elklan.co.uk/under-5s/early-language-builders>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>

<https://www.blacksheepress.co.uk/product/sentence-builder-expressive-skills/>