

## Early Communication Tips for you and your baby: 0 – 6 months

**Did you know that from birth your child would be interested in human faces?** Help them by:

- Smiling at them and copying their sounds when you are changing them.
- Making your voice loud and quiet, high and low to get their attention.

**Did you know that by 3 months your baby would be learning to chuckle and coo?** Help them by:

- Copying the sounds they make.
- Chatting or singing to them about everyday things.
- Playing together face-to-face when it's just the two of you. Why not play Peek- a-boo.



**Did you know that by 6 months your baby would probably be making noises to get your attention?** Help your baby by:

- Waving when you say bye-bye and they'll soon start to copy you.
- Pointing to the toys or people that you talk about. This helps their understanding.
- Having quiet time together each day when you are playing together face to face. Try taking turns with your baby's favourite toy e.g. pop up toys or shakers.



**Remember children develop at different rates. If you have any queries regarding your child's development please speak to your Health Visitor or contact your local Speech and Language Therapy department.**

## Early Communication

### Tips for you and your baby: 9 - 18 months

**Did you know that by 9 months, your baby would be starting to understand the words you use in your daily routine?** Help your baby by:

- Keeping the words you use in your daily routine consistent e.g. “time for lunch”, “bath time” and “time for bed”.
- Singing songs with actions.
- Listening to the sounds they say and chatting back.
- Following what they want to play with e.g. if it’s bricks, build a tower.

**Did you know that by 12 months your child would be trying to tell you things by pointing, babbling and making faces?** Help your child by:

- Naming the things they point to.
- Speaking in short sentences e.g. “mummy’s coat”.
- Talking to them about what they see.
- Singing songs and nursery rhymes.



**Did you know that by 18 months your child would have some first words?** Help them by:

- Making animal noises when you see animals e.g. “moo”, “baa”.
- Having pretend playtime e.g. having a picnic with teddy or talking on the telephone.
- Talking to them about what you’re doing e.g. when putting the shopping away or when making dinner.
- Copying what they say, adding an extra word e.g. child says: “bus” you say: “yes a **big** bus”.

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