

7 TOP TIPS FOR LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT



- 1. Model what you want to hear.** If your child says something in the wrong way, repeat the right way back to them instead of correcting them. If they say "Dog him sit..." repeat back, "Yes, the dog is sitting."
- 2. Add another word or two to help develop their language.** If your child says "That man walking" you could say "Yes, that man is walking on the grass."
- 3. Demonstrate useful social phrases:** "It looks like you want to join in. You could say, 'Mark, can I have a turn please?'"
- 4. Teach new words and concepts** – children with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) need repetition and explanation.
- 5. Link new words and ideas to what they already know** "Enormous, that means very big. Remember the elephant we saw in the zoo? He was enormous."
- 6. Try and avoid tricky parts of language, like idioms:** "I'm all ears" or metaphors: "Life is a journey" because they make language even more confusing for children.
- 7.** If you use difficult words, idioms or jokes and see your child is confused, **explain the language to them.**