

Expressive Language

Expressive language is the ability to make your thoughts and ideas known. It involves your child putting words together to tell you something important to them.

If your child has expressive difficulties they might:

- Not be speaking yet
- Use only a few words
- Use very short phrases
- Point or take you to what they want
- Let other children speak for them
- Become frustrated when trying to say something

Expressive language develops over time

You can help your child by



- Playing with them and talking about what they are doing
Use simple words eg *"Oh the car has crashed"* or *"Your baby is Sleeping"*.
- Being available to listen and respond
- Repeating what the child said using better language
- Adding on something extra eg *"dog"* *"Yes that's a big dog, isn't it?"*
- Reading stories, saying rhymes and singing songs
- Ask a question. But provide a **choice** of possible answers, e.g. *"Do you want to play in the sand or water?"*
- Encouraging **all** attempts to speak/communicate