

Communication Top Tips

12 to 18 months

Talk about what you are doing when doing jobs around the houses such as cleaning and loading the washing machine

Play games such as 'Pat a cake', 'Round and round the garden' and 'Peek a boo'

Respond to all attempts at communication. If your child points to something, name it

Sing nursery rhymes during bath time when you're out for a walk or playing in the garden

Read books as often as you can. Point to things in the pictures. Respond to your child's interest in the pictures. Read favourite books over and over. Books with lots of repetition are good at this age

Play early turn taking games such as knocking over bricks and posting cards into a post box

Keep your language simple

Join in your child's play. Watch what they are doing and then join in following their lead. Don't ask lots of questions but comment on what you and your child are doing

Encourage your child to listen to sounds around them