

# Communication Top Tips

## 3 to 4 years

Read books with your child as often as you can. Talk about the pictures. Let them fill in parts of familiar stories. Read favourite books frequently.

Make time to listen to your child when they are telling you something. Stop what you are doing and get down to their level. Have a special time to talk about their day.

Sing songs and nursery rhymes, pausing for them to fill in missing words.

If your child's sentence is muddled don't correct them but repeat back to them how they could have said it.

Join in pretend play with your child, following their lead. Let them be the 'mum' or 'dad'.

Introduce games with rules, such as 'snakes and ladders'.

Your child is still learning new words and hearing them many times will help them learn them quicker.

Don't correct words that are not said correctly, as with muddled sentences just repeat back the word said with the correct sounds.

Restrict the amount of TV your child watches. Make sure that your child has plenty of opportunities to interact with you, the rest of the family and friends.

Talk about and involve your child in everyday situations such as shopping, cooking, and cleaning. Your child will enjoy these more when they are given a role to play and are included in conversations as they happen.