

1. COMMUNICATION

	<u>Attention/social interaction.</u>
	<u>Understanding</u>
	<u>Speaking (bulding vocabulary/ building sentences)</u>



Attention/social interaction.

These activities are meant to share attention and enjoyment together; they promote eye contact, attention and interaction.

The adult leads the game to support the child's attention.

TIPS

To help your child looking at you and fully engage, remember to:

- Position yourself opposite to your child and try to get down to their level so you are facing one each other.
- use motivating toys that can get your child's attention and make the game a special event (don't leave the toys available to your child at any time but keep them in a box or bag).
- Keep the activities short but try to stretch them as much as you can according to your child's response

Activities Ideas

- **Turn taking games** (any game from building a tower together to Pop the pirate, throwing, and catching a ball/balloon to each other, blowing and catching bubbles in turn)

Throw and catch.



Position yourself in front to your child and try to get down to their level.

You can catch and throw the ball to each other or roll it towards each other. You can also throw the ball up in the air and pick it up. Anything that your child likes.



You can add some language while playing attention games.

Play 'ready, steady, go games'.

Build anticipation: say “Ready, Steady...go” and throw the ball. Repeat and pause and hold the ball before saying ‘go’ to see if your child says “go” for you to throw it. Remember turn taking can be difficult, so initially keep the waiting moment to a minimum so they don’t lose interest

Bubbles



Take turns to make bubbles (you can also use a bubble machine)

Repeat as much as your child likes and add something (for example, you can catch the bubbles, or pop them with a finger). Keep it fun!



Add some language while playing (*‘catch’ / ‘pop’ the bubbles, ‘big bubbles’*)

When it’s your child’s turn, hold the bubbles and say *‘more bubbles’?* to encourage him/her to request for more.

Make a silly mistake: pretend you can’t unscrew the lid to encourage your child to communicate with you (you can say *“help?”* or *“open”*)

• Copying games

‘Follow the leader’(start with ‘clapping hands’, ‘bouncing like a bunny’ and add different movements: touch your head, touch your knees, turn around, star jumps etc.)

-‘Simon says’



- **Action songs** (e.g., 'sleeping bunnies'. It's a very good song to share attention and alternate still and active moments)
- **Music statues / Stop and go games.**
- **Listening games** (e.g., 'music fast and slow'. If the children hear an instrument played slowly, they have to dance.
- **Inset puzzles** (You can make a puzzle together with your child. To share attention, you can leave the board while you keep the pieces; your child can fish them one by one from bag or you can give him/a choice of 2)

INTRUDING IN YOUR CHILD PLAY

What is my child prefers to play on his/her own?

You can intrude in their play and help them extending their focus and briefly interact with you

How can I intrude in my child's play?

The key is to join their play gently, without interrupting or directing their play and see if you can get their attention

For instance if your child is busy building a tower with Lego, you can play alongside him and make another tower with your own Lego pieces ('let's see who makes it taller!') or you can add something new for him to copy, such as knocking it down ("oh no, it's falling" or "knock it over")

As you child gets used to this, you can move on and try to build a tower together, taking turns

INTRUDING IN YOUR CHILD PLAY



If your child is whooshing cars down ramps you can try to add something new to get his attention; you can put your finger over the space the car goes down so that he/she has to interact with you. Make it funny, e.g. say "Oh-oh!" in a really exaggerated way. Then say, "Ready? Steady? wait for your child to say "go!" and move your finger. It may become part of the game and your child may expect you to do it again or copy you.. However, at the very beginning be careful if

this is getting annoying for them.