

## PATIENT INFORMATION

# Interaction Strategy: Match my language

## Speech and Language Therapy Factsheet

I match my language to my child's level of talking.

How does this strategy help?

- It allows my child to listen to language at the right level for him or her to learn.

What should I do?

- Listen to the sounds and words that my child uses.
- Notice if my child is mostly saying sounds, single words, phrases or sentences.
- If my child is mostly saying phrases or sentences, notice how many important words are in them.
- Most of the time use language at the same level as my child, and sometimes use language that is slightly longer.

Examples

- If my child uses mostly sounds, I use sounds (e.g. “**oh-oh!**”) and sometimes single words (e.g. “**dog**”).
- If my child uses mostly single words, I use single words and sometimes phrases with two important words (e.g. “**dog's gone**”).
- If my child uses mostly phrases with two important words, I use phrases with two important words and sometimes three important words (e.g. “**dog's gone in the house**”).

NB Talk to your child's Speech and Language Therapist about the level of talking to use for your child's stage of development. If your child has more difficulty with understanding than talking, you will need to use language that is **shorter** than your child's.

[www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk](http://www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk)

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