

PATIENT INFORMATION

Interaction Strategy: Copy and Add Language

Speech and Language Therapy Factsheet

I respond to my child's language by copying and adding a word or a few words.

How does this strategy help?

- It helps to keep the interaction going.
- It lets my child know that I am interested, which encourages her to say more.
- It supports my child's understanding of words, phrases or sentences.
- If my child is using sounds, it shows her how to use words.
- If my child is using words, it shows him how to use his words in a phrase.
- If my child is using phrases, it shows her how to use her words in a simple sentence.

What should I do?

- Listen to the sounds and words that my child uses.
- Respond immediately when my child communicates by copying his facial expressions, gestures, sounds and/or words and adding a word or a few words.

Examples

- If my child frowns and says "oh-oh!" when something breaks, I could frown and say "oh-oh, **broken**."
- If my child points and says "juice" when she wants more juice, I could point and say "**more** juice?"
- If my child says "daddy ball" when he wants me to kick the ball, I could say "daddy **kick the** ball?"

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For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.
