

Three years old

My speech and language milestones & some tips to encourage talking



Speech and Language Milestones

Understanding

During my third year I will begin to:

- Follow instructions with three key words in them e.g. “give the cup and the spoon to daddy”, “find your coat, your shoes, and your bag”.
- Understand colours.
- Understand some describing words, for example big, little, fast, slow.
- Understand “who” and “where” questions.

Talking

During my third year I will begin to:

- Speak in sentences with at least three words in them.
- Use some describing words, for example big, little.
- Talk about the “here and now”.
- Ask some simple questions.
- Use a wide range of speech sounds and am beginning to use the “f, s, l, and y” sounds. Sometimes I miss the ends of words off.

Top Talking Tips



It helps me if you:

- Repeat any unclear words that I say back to me, this will show me the right way to say them without feeling that I am being “corrected”.
- Give me lots of time to tell you something, then I won’t feel pressured to say what I want to say.
- Add another word to mine, this will show me how to say a slightly longer phrase e.g. child: “drive car”, adult: “daddy driving car”
- It helps me if I hear the same word repeated in different sentences

Look a car in your garage

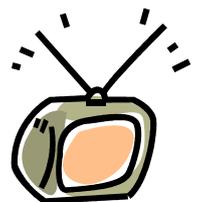
Daddy drives a car

Mummy's washing the car

- Play listening games with me. I like it when we cover our eyes and listen to the sounds we can hear in the house and outside e.g. aeroplane, birds, washing machine, bath water running. (If I develop good listening skills it will help my speech and language development and help me to learn).



- Read stories to me but make sure there are lots of pictures for me to look at. Talk about the pictures and give me time to talk about the pictures too.
- Turn off the TV when we are talking, playing or eating tea – I can’t listen or concentrate with all that background noise!



**If you have any questions please contact the Speech and Language
Therapy Department on 01902 444363**