

First Words: More

Why? - More is a really useful word to target as it is easy to say and is highly motivating for children to learn!

When? - Whenever the opportunity arises. There are specific activities below, but the best time to target "more" is when your child wants more of something!

- Blow bubbles with your child. When they are all gone, pause with the wand in your hand and see if your child will indicate that they want more. They might look, try to take the pot or vocalise. When they have used some way to communicate, say "more?" and pause again to see if they will copy. If they do, great! If not, say "more" again and blow more bubbles.
- Follow this same process with food. This is a big motivator for children! Give your child a little bit, and follow the process above to encourage them to ask for more.
- Use wind-up and multi-sensory toys (noisy ones with flashing lights etc!) and see if your child will ask for more with those.



Top Tips

- Make sure you pause each time and give your child a chance to communicate.
- Try to get eye contact with your child. Get down on the floor with them and make sure you're at the same level. Wait for eye contact. You could bring the toy you're playing up to your face to encourage this.
- Accept any attempt at communication to start with. Don't tell them it's wrong, but just say the right word afterwards for them to hear.
- After a while, if they are still not vocalising, you could try saying "mmm" and see if they can copy or finish the word.
- Stop when your child gets bored and try again another day. They have to actually want more for this to work!