

# First 50 words



These activities will help your child learn some early words. Children need to hear words lots of times in different sentences to learn them and eventually start to use them themselves.

It is important to remember that understanding develops before talking. Babies are able to point to things and will recognise many everyday objects long before they can name things. So even though your child is not able to 'talk' to you they still need to hear lots of talking.

Use our chart to keep track of the early words your child is saying and use the activities described below to support your child learning their first words.

## Feely Bag Fun

Collect together some toys and objects from around the house and put them in a bag. Let your child pull out an item and name it for them. Talk about the item saying what it does or what it has or where you find it. This helps your child make links which will support them to remember it.

## Hide the Picture

Hide some pictures or objects around the room and ask your child to find one. Encourage your child to name the picture and mime what you do with it. You may need to name the pictures and objects for your child.

## Choices

One of the best ways to encourage your child to use words is to give them a choice, e.g. do you want milk or juice? You can use this in games and when reading by giving them a choice of words

e.g. When reading - 'Is it the bear or the rabbit'?

When playing - 'Do you need a car or a fire engine?'

Your child will probably point to the one they want at first but if you leave a little pause it will encourage them to try to say the word. Don't worry if the words aren't very clear at first as long as your child is trying to say some words.

# First 50 words

This checklist is a guide to some of the most common words that a child will learn to say. It will help you record the words your child is saying or trying to say. There is also room for you to add special words unique to your child, e.g. family names, pets

When your child says a word on their own, (**not** copying you after you have said it), tick it off the list. Use the list to choose which words you would like your child to learn next.

Objects	✓	Actions	✓	Other words	✓
Baby		Brush		Uh-oh	
Daddy		Cut		Wow	
Mummy		Drink		Bye	
Eyes		Eat		More	
Feet		Jump		Up	
Hair		Kick		Down	
Hands		Sleep		Yes	
Mouth		Cry		No	
Nose		Clap		Hot	
Hat		Wash		Animal sounds	
Shoes				Vehicle sounds	
Socks					
Ball					
Bricks		<b>Special words</b>	✓		
Bus					
Car					
Duck					
Teddy					
Book					
Cat					
Dog					
Apple					
Biscuit					
Cake					
Spoon					
Drink					
Milk					
Banana					