



## Top Talking Tips for Early Years Practitioners

- Speak at a slowish pace with gaps
- Ask fewer questions
- Action songs, rhymes and story-making all help to develop understanding and talking
- Create play opportunities where an adult supports and encourages chatter
- Remember to teach action words, (verbs), as well as the name of things (nouns)
- When rewarding a child, tell them what was pleasing
- Make sure that the children are looking at your face when you are talking with them
- If you are concerned about a child's speech sounds or language or social communication, get the family's permission and refer to speech and language therapy sooner rather than later

[www.hounslow.gov.uk/speech\\_and\\_language](http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/speech_and_language)



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