

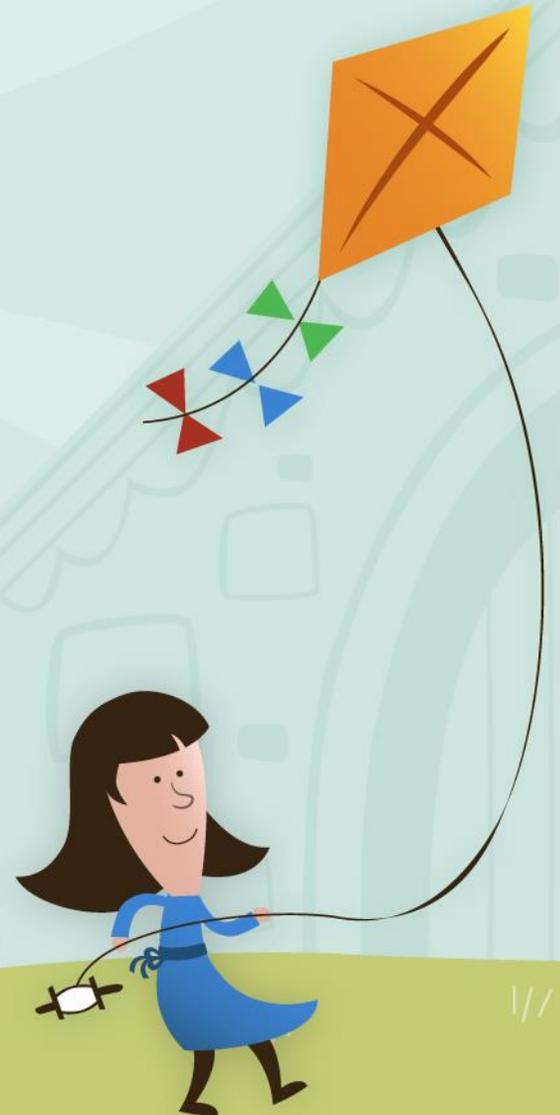
‘Language is the key to learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and beyond. The acquisition of language is the single most important and complex skill a child learns in their first five years.’

- *Statutory Framework for Early Years Foundation Stage (September 2014)*



Welcome

Communication and Language Parent Workshop



What is Communication and Language?



- Communication and Language is one of the Prime areas of the Early Years Curriculum.
- It is arguably the most important part of the curriculum – without good communication and language skills children will find it hard to achieve in all other areas.
- Communication and Language encompasses three main strands:
 1. Speaking
 2. Understanding
 3. Listening and Attention



Speaking



- Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.
- They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.



Understanding



- Children follow instructions following several ideas or actions.
- They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.



Listening and Attention



- Children listen attentively in a range of situations.
- They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.
- They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.



How do our children
communicate with us?



- Orally – including tone of voice
- Gestures – pointing, signs
- Behaviour
- Facial expressions
- All can be in a positive or negative way



Communication and Language Activities: What we do in school.





- Model good spoken language
- Talking partners
- Stories
- Visual prompts
- Talking to children about their interests
- The opportunity to talk in both structured sessions and in play
- Encourage conversation between peers



We're Going on a Bear Hunt!



Communication and Language Activities: What can you do at home?





- Board Games
- I-Spy
- Stories
- Talking about your day
- Talking about what you can see on journeys
- Chatting at the dinner table
- Talk to your child at anytime in whatever language you are most comfortable in!



Top Tips for Effective Communication





**Be face-to-face
with your child**

Every time you talk to your child make sure you are face-to-face with them and down at their level – this makes it easier for them to hear what you say and see your mouth moving.





**Make sure you
have their
attention**

Help them focus
on you talking,
by making sure
you have their
attention before
you talk to them.





Use Props

Showing objects or pictures and using gestures that go with what you say really helps children learn what words mean.





**Keep away from
distractions**

Switch off the TV, phones, computers, etc., so there are no distractions whilst you play and interact with your child; giving them all your attention without distractions in the background will enable them to concentrate more on their communication with you.





Always respond

Always respond to your child when they try to communicate with you: let them know that what they have to say is important to you – this will motivate them to keep trying.



Thank-you for coming!

We have set up the classroom like we do for a typical day in reception, please feel free to explore and have a go!

