

Learning to talk

WHAT TO EXPECT

9 MONTHS



States of Guernsey
States Early Years Team

What to Expect...

- I turn to look when I hear someone talking or a sound like the phone ringing or the door bell.
- I will look at you when you call my name.
- If you point at something I will look in the direction you are pointing.
- I can point to show you the things I am interested in and I use some actions like waving "hello" and "bye."
- I can make babbling sounds like "na-na-na" and "gu-gu."
- I can take turns with you when you copy the sounds I make.
- I like playing social games like "Peekaboo" and I will show you when I want to play again.



Talking Tips

- When we talk and play try to be face to face. I can learn more from you when I can see your expressions.
- I find it hard to listen when there are other noises so please turn off screens and TVs when we are talking and playing together.
- Copy the sounds I make and the actions I do, this will help us to take turns.
- Talk to me about the things we can see. Tell me the words for things I am interested in.
- Use simple words and phrases so I can pick out the words I need – “look, a dog.”
- Tune into what I am trying to tell you. Give me the words for what you think I am trying to say – “Up! You want to come up.”

Talking Times

- Mealtimes, bath times, changing my nappy are all great times to talk with me.
- Sing songs and nursery rhymes with me. The repetition and rhymes help me learn new words, especially when you use actions too.
- I like to look at books with you. Especially, lift the flap books and touchy feely books.
- I love to play the same games again and again, like “peekaboo” and “Ready, Steady, Go” games.

Please remember that learning to talk takes time and all children develop at their own pace. To find out more about learning to talk visit these websites or talk to your health visitor.



Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service
www.gov.gg/SLT



States Early Years Team, Language for Life
www.gov.gg/SEYT



Tiny Happy People
www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people



Talk With Me
www.gov.wales/talk-with-me



Speech and Language UK: Changing Young Lives
www.speechandlanguage.org.uk



Child's progress checker
www.speechandlanguage.org.uk



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