

Waiting



How do I do it?

Sit face to face and at the same eye level as your child and watch what they are doing and what they are interested in.

Wait for your child to give you a signal; this can be by looking, with body movements/ body language, using sounds or words.

It can help to count to 10 before commenting.

Why should I do it?

Waiting gives your child time to start playing with what they want to play with or want to focus on

Watching shows them that you are interested in what they are doing.

Waiting gives your child more time to think, start a conversation or respond

Ideas

Playdoh



Wait and watch what your child does with the playdoh. Watch what they are doing with the playdoh and when they decide what to make, join in with your own playdoh and comment on or copy what they're doing.

Books



If your child knows the story, wait at exciting parts and see if they can gesture or say anything about it. Wait for 10 seconds and if they don't say anything, continue commenting on the picture as normal.

Puzzle



When completing a puzzle, you could name each of the pieces as your child picks them up. If your child struggles to get it in, don't jump in and rescue them, wait and model 'uh oh tricky' or 'help'.