

Initiating Bids for Interaction

# Initiating Bids for Interaction

**Barnet EYSEND**

This resource has been developed by members of the  
Barnet EYSEND Advisory Team

## Initiating Bids for Interaction Definition



**Definition:**  
**Initiating bids** means when the child approaches others and makes an attempt to get your attention or share something with you

# Initiating Bids for Interaction Targets

Some sample targets for children in Early Years

**Target:** To request more of a favourite item or game with a familiar adult 3 times across the day

**Target:** To request more of a favourite item or game with a range of adults 3 times a week across the nursery

**Target:** To initiate a physical game by requesting “go” or “more” with another child with adult support in a group situation once per day

**Target:** To request a snack using a vocalisation, point or single word once per day

**Target:** To use a symbol to request help or toilet from an adult-worn symbol, once in a session

**Target:** To initiate a social game with a peer with adult support in a small group situation 3 times a week

# Initiating Bids for Interaction Strategies



Repetition of activities and games

Follow their lead

Place objects out of reach e.g. in pots



Model language you want – keep it simple

Praise and reward any attempts at communication with you

Building trusting relationships

Be available and approachable

Set up motivating opportunities to generalise skills in a different context

Keep symbols and motivating resources close at hand

# Initiating Bids for Interaction Activities

## Blanket song

- Child is swung is a blanket (if safe to do so) between 2 adults.
- The song 'Row the boat' is sung, child being gently swung from side to side.
- When song ends, adult pause, with child and blanket on the floor, and wait for the child to request more, verbally or non-verbally.



## Parachute games

(or big scarf/sari/space blanket etc)

- Adult using 'Ready, steady.....go!'
- Wait for child to initiate 'go' for parachute to go 'up'.
- Accompanying song 'The Parachute Goes Up and Down' to the tune of 'Here we go round the Mulberry Bush'

## Tips

- Use and availability of visuals – help, snack, drink, toilet outside, play.
- Adult to wear visuals on lanyard or keyring so that they are accessible
- The child can then point to them to indicate their need.



## Motivating items

- Stored in clear containers so children can see them and give them to the adult to open.
- Adult to pause in response to encourage eye contact and model language needed eg 'open it'

## Stop/Go Shaker song

- 'All the children are playing together'
- Adults and children to each have shakers.
- Using the cue 'Ready. Steady.....go!'
- Wait for child to indicate 'go' to start the song.
- At the end of the song wait for child to indicate they want to repeat the song.

