

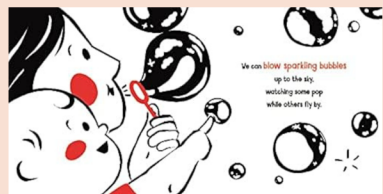
Supporting communication through story books



Sharing books and reading with your child shows them how to use lots of different words and sentences. This helps them learn how to talk about their experiences, ask/answer questions, and share ideas. Read on for ideas to help your child's communication skills through story books.

Choosing story books...

Let your child choose a book from a small selection, and name their choice. Consider books which are...



High contrast
(for babies)



Wordless

Tell stories in your home language, talk about what your child notices, make up the story together...



Repetitive

Create opportunities to communicate....

- Talk about what your child is interested in. You don't have to read from start to finish!
- Pause and wait for your child to complete familiar sentences....
- Be playful: Change repeating parts of a familiar story and see how your child responds! e.g. "that's not my butterfly"



- Your child might comment, point to pictures or make sounds. Build on this by:
 - Repeating back what they have said clearly
 - Adding on a word
 - Commenting on what they've shown you



- Act out parts of the story with objects around you to help them understand and think about what's next...
- Let your child arrange pictures or objects to help them tell the story their way.

Environment

- **Quiet** and cosy space: Tv off, phones silent.
- Keep books **in reach**, so your child can explore.
- Sit at **eye level** so you can see what your child is interested in.
- Establish a **routine** e.g. bedtime stories, to help your child feel comfortable and know what to expect.



QUIET
ZONE

