



Waiting

Why should I do it?

Waiting gives your child time to start playing with what they want to play with and helps them focus. When you watch, it shows you care about what they're doing.

Waiting also gives your child extra time to think, start talking, or respond to you.

How do I do it?

1. Be face to face, at the same eye level as your child. **Watch** what they are doing and interested in.
2. **Wait** for your child to give you a **signal**; this can be by looking, pointing, using sounds or words.
3. **Respond** to your child's signal by commenting or joining in their play.
4. Use this strategy during special time, along with other strategies you have learnt.



How long should I wait?

It can be helpful to count to 10 (silently) before commenting. This might feel like a long time for you but may be just right for your child!

Ideas!

Playdough

Wait and watch. When they decide what to make, join in with your own playdough and comment on or copy what they're doing.



Books

If your child knows the story, 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.

Video example

